

Reclaiming **Worker Power** Energizing **Our Movement**

WASHINGTON STATE LABOR COUNCIL, AFL-CIO

RESOLUTION TO PROTECT AND EXPAND SOCIAL SECURITY RESOLUTION #2024.25

WHEREAS, 1.4 million Washington residents received Social Security benefits totaling \$30 billion in 2022 that lifted 287,000 Washington seniors out of poverty; and

WHEREAS, 35% of workers over age 50 report that they do not expect to have the resources necessary to be financially secure in retirement; and

WHEREAS, women and (people of color) are most at risk of retirement insecurity; and WHEREAS Social security will be unable to meet its full obligations to beneficiaries after 2035 without benefit cuts or additional revenue due to the falling percentage of productivity gains going to wage workers, except those at the very top; and

WHEREAS, increasing the Social Security age of full retirement is simply a means of cutting benefits, with the biggest impact on lower wage workers; and

WHEREAS, the Republican Study Committee, whose members include 174 Republican House members, proposes raising the Social Security retirement age in its 2025 budget proposal; and

WHEREAS, the US Congressional House Budget Committee reported out a proposal for a Fiscal Commission that would meet in secret and develop recommendations for cuts to Social Security and Medicare that would have to be voted on with no amendments; and

WHEREAS, everyone should pay the same share of wages into Social Security, but the wealthy currently pay a far lower percentage of income; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Washington State Labor Council AFL-CIO opposes benefit cuts to Social Security through the establishment of a Fiscal Commission Act or any other means and support measures that require everyone to pay their fair share, including removing the limit of income subject to Social Security taxation (\$168,600 in 2024); and be it finally

RESOLVED, that the Washington State Labor Council AFL-CIO will send a copy of this Resolution to the Washington Senate and Congressional delegation as well as to the AFL-CIO International.