

Reclaiming **Worker Power**  
Energizing **Our Movement**  
WASHINGTON STATE LABOR COUNCIL, AFL-CIO

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF WNBA MEMBERS ON THE SEATTLE STORM IN THEIR  
CONTRACT FIGHT  
RESOLUTION #2024.38**

WHEREAS, the Women's National Basketball Players Association (WNBPA) is the first professional sports union for women and has promoted the interests, aspirations, and long-term visions of WNBA players since 1998; and

WHEREAS, the members of the WNBPA are professional athletes who are employed across twelve teams in twelve cities within the United States, including the Seattle Storm in Seattle, Washington, and two additional teams in the coming years, in Oakland, California and in Toronto, Canada; and

WHEREAS, the members of the WNBPA on the Seattle Storm will soon be engaged in their sixth contract fight for fair wages, benefits, and working conditions that reflect their contributions and sacrifices for the growth and prosperity of women's athletics and prioritize their health, safety, compensation, and the right to self-determination; and

WHEREAS, the WNBPA, and by extension the WNBA, comprises mostly Black women, members of the LGBTQ+ community and their allies; and

WHEREAS, economic justice is inherently tied to racial and gender justice, and ensuring employers provide fair compensation and working conditions for the players is a step toward dismantling systemic and gendered racism and the continued devaluation of women's contributions within professional sports and beyond; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO (WSLC) is committed to creating an anti-racist labor movement that supports workers' rights and promotes economic justice for all, especially marginalized communities; and

WHEREAS, the WSLC is committed to creating a labor movement that champions women workers for their contributions to the growth and success of their industries and supports their contract fights to attain what is deserved but has been traditionally denied; and

WHEREAS, the WSLC recognizes that the struggle for fair labor practices within the WNBA is a critical part of the broader fight for fair labor practices elsewhere in this state; now therefore, be it

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RESOLVED, that the WSLC stands in full support of the WNBPA members on the Seattle Storm in their contract negotiations and calls on the WNBA to address the players' demands for fair wages, improved working conditions, and greater investment in their health, safety, and well-being; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the WSLC urges all affiliated unions and allies to support the Seattle Storm players by raising awareness, participating in solidarity actions, and advocating for policies that advance racial, gender, and economic justice within the sports industry; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the WSLC reaffirms its commitment to building an anti-racist labor movement that fights for the rights and dignity of all workers, particularly those who have been historically marginalized, oppressed, and traditionally excluded from organized labor; and be it finally

RESOLVED, that the WSLC will forward this resolution to the AFL-CIO, urging all federated bodies in cities and states with WNBA teams to join in supporting the WNBPA members, thereby ensuring solidarity in the fight for fair wages, benefits, and working conditions, in alignment with our shared values of justice, equity, and dignity for all workers.