

**PROPOSED
RESOLUTION**
for submission to the
2011 NYSUT Representative Assembly

Must be received by: Jan. 18, 2011

Return to: Office of the President

NYSUT

800 Troy-Schenectady Road

Latham, NY 12110

☐ If this is a reaffirmation of a prior resolution, please check here.

Resolution Title: Safeguarding Public-Sector Workers' and Retirees' Security

Submitted by: Professional Staff Congress/CUNY

Local or Retiree Council Name

(See format and guidelines on page 6.)

(over)

I hereby certify that the above resolution was approved for submission to the 2011 NYSUT Representative Assembly by the:

Executive Board

at a meeting held on Jan. 13, 2011

(Executive Board, General Membership, etc.)

(date)

Please Print Name: Barbara Bowen

Signature: Barbara Bowen
(President)

Professional Staff Congress
NYSUT Local or Retiree Council

Local or Retiree Council Name: Professional Staff Congress/CUNY

Local or Retiree Council President's E-mail address: bbowen@pscmail.org



Resolution 1

Safeguarding Public-Sector Workers' and Retirees' Security

Whereas, both in-service and retirees of former public employers, including school districts, rely on contractual wages and other benefits, including Social Security, Medicare, pensions and negotiated health benefits, to maintain a dignified lifestyle during their working years and afterwards; and

Whereas, President Obama has established the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform which directs the commission to recommend by December 1, 2010, how to reduce the annual deficits to 3 percent of the national economy by 2015; and

Whereas, the membership of the commission includes those foes of entitlement programs who have supported privatizing Social Security through individual investment accounts and are continuing to engage in actions designed to demonize retirees as "greedy geezers;" and

Whereas, these opponents are now likely to propose cuts to Social Security and Medicare benefits which are critical to the welfare of public-sector workers and retirees; and

Whereas, there exists at local, state and national levels, attacks on public-sector workers and their retirees by those disregarding or seeking to overturn collective bargaining laws and agreements while ignoring the fact that the current economic crisis that fueled these vicious attacks is a result of the failure to raise taxes on the wealthy; the cost of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan; and failure of the national banking system, thus creating job losses, home foreclosures, etc.; and

Whereas, such attacks include, but are not limited to, forced unpaid furloughs, rollbacks, take-backs, salary freezes, layoffs and reducing or eliminating public pensions and health insurance for public-sector workers and retirees; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that NYSUT support, and/or reaffirm, its permanent commitment to Social Security and Medicare long-term solvency by opposing any commission recommendations that would result in a reduction of benefits, including raising of the eligibility age or means-testing; and be it further

RESOLVED, that NYSUT unequivocally support and/or reaffirm its strong commitment to its in-service and retired members during this period of austerity and assist members in safeguarding their current security and in opposing those state and local actions that would jeopardize this security; and be it further

RESOLVED, that NYSUT seek the continued strong support of its state and national affiliates in opposition to these negative attacks on unionized members.