

1 [Supporting the Members of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees]

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3 **Resolution standing in solidarity with the members of the International Alliance of**
4 **Theatrical Stage Employees working in the motion picture and television production**
5 **industry who are fighting against dangerous work practices in California.**

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7 WHEREAS, The film and television industry is a huge economic engine in California
8 and in 2019 created 212,520 direct jobs paying an estimated \$28 billion in wages and
9 supported 664,810 jobs through payments to local vendors and other businesses; and

10 WHEREAS, The creation of the California Film and Television Tax Credit Program in
11 2014 with the support of a strong Labor-Management coalition, revitalized the industry,
12 brought back thousands of good union jobs, and contributed to the industry's prosperity; and

13 WHEREAS, The International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE)
14 represents 52,000 skilled crew and craftspeople living and working in California including
15 production and department coordinators, writers' assistants, cinematographers, costumers,
16 grips, script supervisors, technicians, designers, and other essential below-the-line employees
17 that are the backbone of the industry and their hard work, skill, and dedication help to create
18 the magic of movies and television; and

19 WHEREAS, IATSE is currently in collective bargaining with the Alliance of Motion
20 Picture and Television Producers (AMPTP), which represents media mega corporations
21 collectively worth trillions of dollars; and

22 WHEREAS, The AMPTP is refusing union proposals to provide safe working conditions
23 during contract negotiations even though these are working conditions the studios already
24 afford to union counterparts in other countries, including in Canada and Europe; and

25 WHEREAS, The most grievous workplace conditions the union has proposed

1 addressing include:

- 2 ● Excessively unsafe and harmful working hours including Fridays that often last well
- 3 into Saturday (aka “Fraturdays”);
- 4 ● Wages for the lowest paid crafts that cannot sustain a decent living;
- 5 ● Incredibly long workdays without any break for a meal, to put down equipment, to
- 6 unmask and get fresh air, or just to sit down;
- 7 ● Consistent failure to provide reasonable rest between workdays, and on weekends;
- 8 ● Substandard rates for the same work on “new media” streaming projects even on
- 9 productions with budgets that rival or exceed those of traditionally released
- 10 blockbusters from some of the most profitable companies on the planet including
- 11 Apple and Amazon; and

12 WHEREAS, IATSE has reached a deadlock over dangerous work practices that have
13 become intolerable to its members; and

14 WHEREAS, AMPTP’s refusal to recognize the union’s concerns for workplace health
15 and safety as a problem, compelled IATSE to call for a strike authorization vote of their
16 members - a strike that would effectively shut down film and television production in
17 California; and

18 WHEREAS, In San Francisco, the unions impacted include IATSE Local 16 and 784,
19 as well as Locals in Los Angeles and across California that together represent 52,000 working
20 people and their families who depend on them to come home from work safely; and

21 WHEREAS, Nationwide, IATSE represents nearly 60,000 members across 36 Local
22 Unions with 89.66 percent of the membership voting in the strike authorization vote, and 98.68
23 percent voting “Yes”; and

24 WHEREAS, Behind every great film and TV show is a great film and TV crew who
25 create the magic of TV and movies that has gotten so many people through the pandemic and

1 that they look forward to seeing on the big screen; now, therefore, be it
2 RESOLVED, The Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco stands
3 in solidarity with IATSE members who have risked their health and safety for the last year,
4 working through the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure that the motion picture and television
5 production industry emerged intact and who have worked day and night to return production
6 to pre-pandemic levels; and, be it

7 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
8 Francisco urges the AMPTP to bargain in good faith with IATSE to come to agreement on a
9 fair contract that addresses workers' basic human needs of adequate rest and time to sleep,
10 meal breaks, and living wages.

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