

RESOLUTION

SUBJECT: INSURRECTION AT UNITED STATES CAPITOL

SUBMITTED BY: MINNESOTA AFL-CIO EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

WHEREAS: The violent acts of rioters at the United States Capitol on Wednesday, January 6, 2021 led to the evacuation of all United States Senators and Representatives and staff; and

WHEREAS: Many Capitol staffers had to barricade themselves in offices and hide under desks in terror; and

WHEREAS: Rioters killed a Capitol Police Officer and injured numerous others; and

WHEREAS: Law enforcement's preparation for the rally and the police's treatment of the nearly all white rioters, including large numbers of self-proclaimed white supremacists, was entirely different than those protesting the killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and many others further demonstrates deep prejudice in police response to Black, Indigenous, and people of color protesting for equal justice; and

WHEREAS: Coup is defined as, "The sudden, violent, and illegal seizure of power from government." Or "The sudden violent overthrow of an existing government by a small group."; and

WHEREAS: Insurrection is defined as "Acts of violence against the state or its officers." or "Act of revolting against ...an established government."; and

WHEREAS: Sedition is defined as, "Inciting revolt against the government." Or "Two or more people who conspire to overthrow the United States Government or prevent or hinder or delay the execution of U.S. law by force."; and

WHEREAS: Terrorism is defined as the unlawful use of violence and intimidation, especially against civilians, in the pursuit of political aims.

WHEREAS: The rioters of January 6, 2021 attempted a coup, did perform an insurrection, and did commit terrorist acts; and

WHEREAS: The rioters were sent out to enact their insurrection on the Capitol by the president's dangerous actions and words ever since the November 3, 2020 election, culminating with his words and actions encouraging violent action by his supporters; and

WHEREAS: Donald Trump and his administration have failed to curtail or effectively fight white supremacist domestic terrorism; and

WHEREAS: On December 19, 2020, Trump tweeted, "Big protest in D.C. Be there. Be wild." And on January 6, 2021 at a rally to stoke up the rioters Trump said, "If you don't fight like hell. You're not going to have a country anymore. Let the weak ones get out. This is time for strength.; and

WHEREAS: At the same January 6, 2021 rally, Trump's lawyer, Rudy Giuliani, told the rioters, "Let's have a trial by combat."; and

WHEREAS: Fascism is defined as a governmental system led by a dictator having complete power, forcibly suppressing opposition and criticism, regimenting all industry, commerce, etc., and emphasizing an aggressive nationalism and often racism; and

WHEREAS: Donald Trump's actions during his presidency and more recently leading up to January 6th demonstrate fascist tendencies; and

WHEREAS: Arguments to invalidate the results of the November 3, 2020 election are rooted in white supremacy as Republicans' false allegations of voter fraud are in majority black and brown jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS: United States Representatives Jim Hagedorn (R-CD 1), Tom Emmer (R-CD 6), and Pete Stauber (R-CD 8) joined a Texas lawsuit, thrown out by the U.S Supreme Court, to disenfranchise millions of voters in numerous states and threaten democracy; and

WHEREAS: United States Representatives Jim Hagedorn (R-CD 1) and Michele Fischbach (R-CD 7) voted to throw out the electoral ballots from Arizona and Pennsylvania, disenfranchising millions of voters, threatening democracy; and

WHEREAS: The "Storm the Capitol" rally held on January 6th at the Minnesota State Capitol was organized in support of and in connection to the seditious rally held at the U.S. Capitol; and

WHEREAS: The speakers, organizers, and attendees of the Minnesota rally cheered and laughed when told that members of the United States House of Representatives were forced to take cover; and

WHEREAS: State Representatives Steve Drazkowski (R-Mazeppa), Eric Lucero (R-Dayton), Glenn Gruenhagen (R-Glencoe), Susan Akland (R-St. Peter), Mary Franson (R-Alexandria), and Jeremy Munson (R-Lake Crystal) were in attendance in support of the "Storm the Capitol" rally and continue to promote the dangerous and seditious lie that the November 2020 Election was fraudulent; and

WHEREAS: The AFL-CIO General Board has called for the resignation, removal of office by the 25th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution or impeachment of President Trump for his attempt to threaten democracy; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED: That the Minnesota AFL-CIO commend and support the National AFL-CIO General Board position to remove President Trump by any legal means due to his acts of sedition; and further be it

RESOLVED: That the Minnesota AFL-CIO condemn U.S. Representatives Jim Hagedorn (CD 1), Tom Emmer (CD6), Michele Fischbach (CD-7), and Pete Stauber (CD-8) as complicit with President Trump's dangerous attempts to subvert democracy, subvert the 2020 elections, and repeatedly attempt to disenfranchise millions of voters; and, further be it

RESOLVED: That the Minnesota AFL-CIO ask for the resignations of U.S. Representatives Jim Hagedorn (CD 1), Tom Emmer (CD6), Michele Fischbach (CD-7), and Pete Stauber (CD-8) or they be censured in Congress; and, be it further

RESOLVED: That the Minnesota AFL-CIO demands for the recall of any State Legislator in attendance at the "Storm the Capitol" Rally who does not denounce their attendance and the rally itself; and, be it further

RESOLVED: That the Minnesota AFL-CIO will not support or endorse any candidate who denies the legitimacy of the November 3, 2020 election results or casts aspersions on our electoral system for political gain; and, be it further

RESOLVED: That the Minnesota AFL-CIO calls for all levels of government to bring the perpetrators of white supremacist terrorism to justice and increase vigilance to safeguard our democracy from this growing threat; and, be it further

RESOLVED: That the Minnesota AFL-CIO support investigations into the racial prejudice law enforcement continues to demonstrate during protests for racial and economic justice, while failing to stop armed, white vigilantes from attacking our elected government; and, be it further

RESOLVED: That the Minnesota AFL-CIO reaffirms our commitment to racial and economic justice for our communities, state, and nation.

