Resolution # 13

All Hourly Workers Must Benefit From the Overtime Tax Deduction

WHEREAS, Congress recently amended the tax code to allow most hourly workers to deduct up to $25,000 of overtime pay from their annual income for tax purposes. That represents as much as $6,000 in tax savings per year for working families, a massive benefit for workers who put in the long hours necessary to earn it; and

WHEREAS, the new law relies on an outdated definition of overtime dating back the Fair Labor Standards Act, enacted in 1938, a law that was never intended to be related to the tax code or the taxable treatment of worker's time. The FLSA definition exempts millions of hourly workers and uses arbitrary formulas that begin overtime at 55 hours of work or more each week; and

WHEREAS, the new bill unfairly excludes an estimated 3 million workers from this new tax benefit, including those employed by airlines, railroads, school bus companies, and motor coach carriers; and

WHEREAS, the TWU and 19 other International Unions have already communicated this to the Majority and Minority leaders of the House and Senate in a letter drafted by the TWU's International Administrative Committee.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the delegates to the 27th Constitutional Convention of the Transport Workers Union of America, commend the TWU leadership for taking the lead on this important issue of workers' fairness; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the delegates to this Convention urge the TWU and our partners in labor to push Congressional leaders to advance this measure quickly through Congress before the end of the year; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that a correct vote on this measure be an indication of a positive mark when considering elected leaders' voting records.