

### ***AFSCME Council 5 Resolution in Support of Wall Street Protests***

**Whereas:** Public employees are under unprecedented attack on our wages, benefits and collective bargaining rights;

**Whereas:** Public employees are unfairly accused of being the source and cause of the current economic crisis;

**Whereas:** Since December 2007, the US economy has suffered the longest and deepest recession since World War II;

**Whereas:** The real source of the crisis is Wall Street greed and financial manipulation;

**Whereas:** Concerned young people, workers and others have gathered on Wall Street and scores of other public places across America to draw attention to those responsible for our financial crisis;

**Whereas:** AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka has said, in reference to these protests, "I think it's a tactic and a valid tactic to call attention to a problem. Wall Street is out of control. I think being in the streets and calling attention to issues is sometime the only recourse you have."

**Whereas:** AFSCME President Gerald McEntee has said, "Something is seriously wrong when regular, working-class Americans pay a higher tax rate than Wall Street brokers and hedge fund managers."

**Whereas:** AFSCME Council 5 represents tens of thousands of public employees in the state of Minnesota;

**Whereas;** AFSCME Council 5 welcomes and supports all struggles for social and economic justice;

**Therefore, Be It Resolved;** AFSCME Council 5 expresses its solidarity with the Occupy Wall Street movement;

**And Further Be It Resolved,** AFSCME Council 5 urges our members, their friends and families and all other supporters of social and economic justice to join those protesting against financial greed and manipulation beginning this Friday, October 7 at the Government Plaza in Minneapolis;

**And Further Be It Resolved** that copies of this resolution be forwarded to President McEntee, to the Minnesota State Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, to elected officials in Minnesota and other interested parties.

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AFSCME Local 3800 submitted this resolution to the AFSCME Council 5 convention (October 5-6, 2011), where it was unanimously approved by delegates representing 43,000 members throughout the state of Minnesota.