

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 29

Encouraging Strategic Mergers of Affiliated Unions

Since the AFL-CIO merger 50 years ago, most of the 135 affiliated unions that then existed have merged with others; there are now 56 national affiliates of the AFL-CIO. It is important to the growth of the labor movement and the enhancement of worker bargaining strength that the process of merger continue apace in a strategically sound manner. Unions sharing complementary jurisdictions should combine, and every merger should advance the principal goals of the labor movement.

The proposed amendment would require the AFL-CIO to implement a proactive merger policy in accordance with guidance to be provided by the Convention.

That guidance would take the form of a statement of AFL-CIO merger policy that directs the Executive Council to take particular steps over the next year to effectuate this program.

Therefore, the Executive Council proposes to amend Article III, Section 8 by adding to the end the following:

Accordingly the AFL-CIO shall implement a proactive, industry-based strategic merger policy as adopted by the AFL-CIO Convention delegates and is hereby authorized to take all necessary steps to effectuate its terms.