

RESOLUTION 37

The War in Iraq

Submitted by South Central Wisconsin Federation of Labor

WHEREAS, the Bush administration has launched a war on Iraq on the claim that it possessed weapons of mass destruction and posed an immediate danger to the United States, yet U.S. inspectors have found no such weapons; and

WHEREAS, 40 Wisconsin citizens and more than 1,700 U.S. troops overall, many of whom are union members or come from union families, have died, thousands more have been wounded and disabled, and upwards of 100,000 Iraqi civilians have been killed; and

WHEREAS, U.S. military personnel, many of whom are union members or come from union families, have shown great courage, have faced extraordinary danger and have made huge sacrifices. Many now want to come home, and bringing them home is the best way to protect and support them; and

WHEREAS, the war has cost an estimated \$156 billion so far at a time when Americans are suffering from a lack of funds for education, jobs, health care, housing, pensions and, notably, veterans benefits; and

WHEREAS, the Bush administration has used the war in Iraq to restrict civil liberties and to attack

the rights of workers and their unions by creating a climate of fear; and

WHEREAS, five international unions, numerous state and local labor councils, and local unions representing millions of union members have passed resolutions calling for our troops to be brought home;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the South Central Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, calls upon President Bush and Congress to bring our troops home from Iraq and provide veterans with benefits that meet their needs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the South Central Federation of send copies of this resolution to the president, the U.S. senators from Wisconsin and our member of the U.S. House; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the South Central Federation of Labor send copies of this resolution to the national and state AFL-CIOs and ask that they adopt similar resolutions; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution are made available to union members, the general public, the media and other elected officials.