Resolution Demanding the end of the Blockade of Gaza and Calling for an International Investigation of the Military Action Against the Recent Humanitarian Convoy

Whereas: Israel's blockade of the Gaza Strip with a population of 1.5 million, half of whom are children, is now in its third year. Over 80% of the population requires food assistance in order to survive, fuel, electricity, imports, exports, building materials, and educational supplies. The movement of people in and out of the Strip has been greatly restricted, leading to life-threatening problems of sanitation, health, water supply and transportation; and

Whereas: the World Health Organization, UN General Secretary Ban Ki-Moon, Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the World Council of Churches, International Committee of the Red Cross/Red Crescent, and the UN Commission for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs have all called for the lifting of the blockade; *and*

Whereas: On May 31, 2010 the Israeli Navy intercepted six civilian vessels of the Gaza Freedom Flotilla, boarded and seized one ship, and blocked the others from entering Gaza. The incident took place in international waters against ships flying under flag of countries not at war with Israel. The result was the death of nine civilians and the blocking of humanitarian aid.

Be it therefore Resolved, that the National Organization of Legal Services Workers, UAW Local 2320 (hereinafter "the Union") call upon the President of the United States and Congress to press the State of Israel to end the blockade of the Gaza Strip, thereby permitting free and uninhibited access for all humanitarian assistance, a return to normalized trade, and the lifting of the ban on building and educational materials; and be it

Further Resolved that the Union joins with other organizations and concerned individuals in calling for an international investigation of the May 31, 2010 incident; and be it

Further Resolved that this Resolution be forwarded to the UAW International Union, to the President of the United States, to the Secretary of State, and to appropriate members of Congress.