



# St. Louis Labor Council

# CONSTITUTION

**GREATER ST. LOUIS LABOR COUNCIL, AFL-CIO**

Approved October 31, 1957

As amended January 1, 2011 and approved by the National AFL-CIO

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# CONSTITUTION OF THE GREATER ST. LOUIS LABOR COUNCIL, AFL-CIO

## PREAMBLE

**WHEREAS**, it has been fully demonstrated by experience that only by organization and unity of action can the working people better their working and living conditions and combat the growing encroachment of the organized forces of capital. We seek the fulfillment of these hopes and aspirations through democratic process within the framework of our constitutional government and consistent with our institutions and traditions, and

**WHEREAS**, realizing that there are many questions affecting the interests of the working people which cannot be dealt with alone by separate trade and labor unions and/or industrial unions, and that labor in the Greater St. Louis area must unite itself and form one brotherhood for the defense, protection and advancement of the working people. In the exercise of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship, we shall serve the interests of all people in our community, and our nation.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that we pledge ourselves to the more effective organization of workers, to the securing for them of full recognition and enjoyment of the rights to which they are justly entitled, to the achievement of ever higher standards of living and working conditions, to the attainment of security for all people, to the enjoyment of their leisure which their skills make possible, and to the strengthening and extension of our way of life, and the fundamental freedoms which are the basis of our democratic society. We shall combat resolutely the forces, which seek to undermine the democratic institutions of our nation and enslave the human soul. We shall strive always to win full respect for the dignity of the human individual whom our unions serve. With Divine guidance, grateful for the fine traditions of our past, confident of meeting the challenge of the future, we proclaim this Constitution of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO for the purpose of organizing and consolidating the working people for their own mutual protection, economic and social advancement, and to that end we adopt the following:

## ARTICLE I

### NAME AND COMPOSITION

Section 1. This organization shall be known as the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, covering the City of St. Louis, Counties of St. Louis, Jefferson, Franklin, St. Charles, Phelps, Crawford, Washington, Ste. Genevieve, St. Francois, Warren, Lincoln and Pulaski in the State of Missouri, and shall be affiliated with the AFL-CIO in accordance with the terms of the certificate of affiliation granted by the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations. For reasons of brevity and clarity this organization should also be known as the St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

Section 2. The Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, shall be composed exclusively of such of the following organizations within the geographical limits covered by the Central Body's charter as shall conform to this Constitution and the rules and regulations adopted pursuant thereto: Local Unions of National and International Unions and organizing committees, affiliated with the AFL-CIO, and Local Unions chartered directly by the AFL-CIO; Local Councils chartered by the Trade and Industrial Departments of the AFL-CIO; and of fraternal delegates from adjacent Central Labor Councils, and the St. Louis Labor Council, AFL CIO, Retirees Council.

## ARTICLE II

### OBJECTS AND PRINCIPLES

The objects of this Labor Council shall be to promote, through appropriate activities in the geographical area covered by the charter of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, the principles of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations, including the following:

Section!. To aid workers in securing improved wages, hours and working conditions, with due regard for the autonomy and integrity of affiliated unions.

Section 2. To aid and assist affiliated unions in extending the benefits of mutual assistance and collective bargaining to workers, and to promote the organization of the unorganized into unions of their own choosing for their mutual aid, protection and advancement, giving recognition to the principle that both craft and industrial unions are appropriate, equal and necessary as methods of union organization.

Section 3. To encourage all workers without regard to race, creed, color, national origin or ancestry to share equally in the full benefits of union organization.

Section 4. To bring within the folds of organization every department of productive industry and to attach them to this Council for the purpose of securing their cooperation in defending and advancing the interests of the working people and the community.

Section 5. To work for the following:

- (a) To assist in furthering the appropriate objects and policies of the AFL-CIO, or of organizations affiliated with the AFL-CIO (provided such objects or policies are not inconsistent with the objects or policies of the AFL-CIO);
- (b) To serve as a means of exchanging information among affiliated bodies on matters of common interest;
- (c) To provide aid, cooperation and assistance to affiliated local unions and other affiliated bodies in their common and individual endeavors;
- (d) To propose, support and promote legislation favorable to and to oppose legislation detrimental to the interest of workers and organized labor;
- (e) To encourage workers to register and vote, to exercise their full rights and responsibilities of citizenship, and to perform their rightful part in the political life of the local, state and national communities;
- (f) To engage in such other activities as are consistent with the objects and principles set forth in the Constitution of the AFL-CIO and the policies of the AFL-CIO.

Section 6. To examine and discuss all questions affecting the interests of the working people and take such action as will tend to improve their conditions.

Section 7. To encourage all affiliates to become active in the St. Louis Union Label Trades Council, and to support the Union Label, Shop Card and Service Button.

## ARTICLE III

### REPRESENTATION

Section 1. Affiliated organizations shall be entitled - on the basis of per capita tax paid - to delegates as follows:

Local unions having -

50 members or less	- 2 delegates
51 to 100 members	- 3 delegates
101 to 250 members	- 4 delegates
251 to 500 members	- 5 delegates

one (1) additional delegate to be allowed for each additional 500 members or majority fraction thereof.

Section 2. One (1) delegate from District or Local Councils and Joint Boards consisting of not less than three (3) Local Unions provided that all its component unions in the local area are affiliated with the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO. One (1) delegate from Councils of AFL-CIO Departments in the local area.

Except on roll call votes, each delegate shall be entitled to one vote. Voting shall be by voice vote or division of the house (show of hands or standing vote) unless a roll call vote is properly demanded by the required number of delegates as provided for elsewhere in this constitution. No delegate shall be permitted to cast the proxy of another delegate and no delegate shall be allowed to represent more than one organization.

Section 3. A roll call vote may be demanded as prescribed for in Article XVIII, Section 2, and based on the following formula:

One (1) vote for each member of affiliated unions determined by the average per capita tax payments for the preceding two (2) calendar quarters. The average membership of a local union which affiliated after the first month of the two preceding calendar quarters shall be based on all months affiliated prior to the month in which the roll call is held and if affiliated for less than six months the average membership shall be proportionately reduced by dividing the per capita tax paid by six. The records of the Secretary-Treasurer shall be the determining factor in computing the number of eligible votes of each affiliated Local Union. The votes of each Local Union shall be divided equally among all its accredited delegates present and each delegate shall



be entitled to cast his assigned number of votes.

Organizations other than Local Unions affiliated with the local Labor Council (excepting fraternal) shall be allotted one (1) delegate and one (1) vote for each organization.

Section 4. One (1) fraternal delegate, without vote, and ineligible to hold office, from adjacent Central Labor Councils, and the St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, Retirees Council; such Councils shall not pay per capita tax to the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

Section 5. No organization officered, controlled or dominated by persons whose policies and activities are consistently directed toward the achievement of the program or purposes of authoritarianism, totalitarianism, terrorism and other forces that suppress individual liberties and freedom of association shall be permitted as an affiliate of any local central body.

#### ARTICLE IV

##### CREDENTIALS - ELIGIBILITY OF DELEGATES

Section 1. Each delegate (including fraternal) shall, before being seated, present a completed original credential form, supplied by the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO including the Seal of the Union he represents, to the Secretary-Treasurer at least one (1) week prior to the meeting at which the delegate is seated. Each delegate (including fraternal) shall present a completed duplicate credential form to the Secretary-Treasurer before the meeting at which the delegate is to be seated.

Section 2. Each delegate, before being seated as a delegate to the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO shall respond when called and approach the chair to receive the following oath.

"I \_\_\_\_\_,do solemnly pledge my honor that I will obey the rules and regulations of this Labor Council and, to the best of my ability, perform all the duties I may be called on to discharge as a delegate thereto. I also pledge that I will patronize only union labels, shop cards and service buttons when they are available and that I will qualify myself to vote in all local, state and federal elections."

Section 3. Credentials of delegates who fail to report in person within two meetings after the Secretary-Treasurer has received and reported on same, shall be returned to their respective unions.

Section 4. they represent.

The term of office of delegates shall be determined by the organization

Section 5. No individual shall be eligible to serve as an officer, member of the executive board or committee or other governing body of, or any other committee of, or as a delegate from, or as a representative, agent or employee of this central labor council who consistently pursues policies and activities directed toward the achievement of the program or purposes of authoritarianism, totalitarianism, terrorism and other forces that suppress individual liberties and freedom of association or who holds a salaried position or any other position of administrative or executive authority in a union, or any subordinated branch of a union, which has been suspended or expelled from the AFL-CIO. The President of the AFL-CIO, and his/her designee, shall have the right to participate, and have a voice, in all central council activities, meetings and deliberations.

Section 6. Should a question arise as to any delegate's eligibility, such question shall be investigated by a Special Committee of three (3) persons, who shall make their report at the next meeting of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

## ARTICLE V

### MEETINGS

Section 1. The regular meeting of this Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, shall be held on the Third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m., unless otherwise ordered by the body.

Section 2. **TIME TO CALL:** The President shall call the meeting to order promptly at the hour above mentioned, and in his absence the Secretary-Treasurer shall conduct the meeting.

In the absence of the Secretary-Treasurer, the presiding officer shall appoint a delegate to serve as Secretary.

Section 3. **QUORUM - EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Thirty (30) delegates, representing ten (10) Local Unions, shall constitute a quorum for all meetings. All regular meetings shall be open. To go into Executive Session shall require a two-thirds (2/3) vote of all delegates present.

Section 4. Special meetings may be called by the President and Secretary-Treasurer, Executive Board, or upon request of thirty (30) delegates representing ten (10) Local Unions. All special meetings must be called by notification to the delegates from the Secretary-Treasurer, and no other business than that designated in the Call shall be considered.

## ARTICLE VI

### REVENUE

Section 1. The funds of this Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, shall be delivered from (1) per capita tax from affiliated unions; (2) affiliation fees of Councils, Districts and Joint Boards.

Section 2. PER CAPITA TAX: Effective January 1, 2011, each organization attaching itself to the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO shall pay seventy cents (70¢) per member per month on its dues paying membership in advance upon affiliation and each month thereafter. Councils, Districts and Joint Boards shall pay \$50.00 per year affiliation fee in advance.

Any organization failing to pay its per capita tax for two (2) consecutive months shall be notified by the President and shall not be entitled to the services of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

Section 3. Request for waiver of per capita tax payments must be filed by application to the Executive Board of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO. The Executive Board shall report its recommendation to the delegate body for action thereon.

## ARTICLE VII

### SUSPENSION AND REINSTATEMENT

Section 1. Any organization failing to pay per capita tax for a period of three (3) months shall be suspended, and their Financial Secretary-Treasurer notified of same.

Section 2. A suspended organization desiring continuous affiliation may be reinstated on payment of all delinquent per capita tax, based upon the per capita tax paid at the time of suspension.

A suspended organization may be reinstated, without continuous affiliation, on payment of three (3) months per capita tax in advance, based upon its entire membership at the time of reinstatement.

## ARTICLE VIII

### OFFICERS

The officers of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO shall be: a President; 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Presidents and twenty (20 additional Vice Presidents without number; Secretary Treasurer; and five (5) Trustees. The above officers shall constitute the Executive Board. To become effective upon adoption.

There shall be two (2) Sergeants-at-Arms elected at the regular elections of officers of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

## ARTICLE IX

### DUTIES OF OFFICERS

Section 1. PRESIDENT: Shall be the executive officer of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, direct the affairs of the Council, and perform the duties customary to his office and any others prescribed by this Constitution. He shall:

- (a) Function as the chief executive officer of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL CIO. Exercise supervision of its affairs, devoting full time to his duties. Preside at all meetings of the Council and Executive Board;
- (b) Appoint all committees not otherwise provided for;
- (c) Direct the activities of the Committee on Political Education in accordance with the By-Laws governing this Committee;
- (d) Serve as chairman and member of the Executive Board;
- (e) Investigate all grievances properly presented at any regular meeting of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, and other grievances that may be officially brought before him, during the time from meeting to meeting, at his discretion, and report his findings in writing, with recommendations;
- (f) Visit all organizations not affiliated for the purpose of securing their affiliation and cooperation; endeavor to strengthen all organizations; and organize into unions all departments of unorganized labor. Make reports of the condition of crafts as he finds

them, either organized or unorganized, within the jurisdiction of this Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

- (g) Represent the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO as a delegate at each convention of the AFL-CIO, and the Missouri State Labor Council.
- (h) Always advance the interests of the Union Label and union made goods;
- (i) Employ such office and administrative help as needed, with the approval of the Executive Board;
- G) Perform such other duties, as the interests of the Council and its Constitution require;
- (k) Make a written report of his activities at each meeting;
- (l) He shall be authorized to sign checks in the name of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, in compliance with this Constitution;
- (m) He shall give a bond in the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000.00) in a reputable surety company, the cost of which shall be borne by the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

Section 2. VICE PRESIDENTS: Shall, in sequence of office, perform the duties of the President, in his absence; or, as otherwise provided in this constitution.

Section 3. SECRETARY-TREASURER:  
shall: Shall devote full time to his duties. He

- (a) Keep a correct record of the proceedings of the meetings, and furnish each union with a copy of the official minutes of each meeting;
- (b) Receive all moneys in the name of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO. He shall keep an accurate account of each organization;
- (c) Submit a report in writing at the end of each quarter, showing the standing of each organization affiliated with this Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO. He shall deposit all moneys at the appropriate times in a bank designated by this body; he shall make quarterly reports on the condition of the Treasury, and submit his books to the Trustees whenever required; he shall give a bond in the sum of ten thousand dollars

(\$10,000.00) in a reputable surety company, the cost of which shall be borne by the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

- (d) Be authorized to sign checks in the name of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, in compliance with this Constitution;
- (e) Carry on all correspondence connected with the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, except that which pertains to the functions of the office of President;
- (f) Visit all organizations not affiliated for the purpose of securing their affiliation and cooperation; endeavor to strengthen all organizations, and organize into unions all departments of unorganized labor. Make reports of the condition of crafts as he finds them, either organized or unorganized, within the jurisdiction of this Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO;
- (g) Notify delegates of special meetings;
- (h) Furnish the chairmen of committees with a copy of the motion defining their duties; and supply the names and addresses of all committee members to chairmen of said committees;
- (i) Always advance the interests of the Union Label and union made goods;
- G) Perform such other duties as are assigned to him by the President;
- (k) Cooperate with the President in all of the functions of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, in the best interests of the organized labor movement;
- (l) Be a delegate to the Missouri, AFL-CIO Convention, and attend the National AFL-CIO Convention as an alternate delegate;
- (m) Make a written report of his activities at each meeting.

Section 4. TRUSTEES: Shall audit the books of the Secretary-Treasurer and submit a quarterly report of their findings and compile and keep on file an annual inventory list of the property of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

In additional, Trustees at their meeting for the Third Quarter of each year shall review the financial condition of the Council and report results of such review and make recommendation to the Executive Board, and delegate body, to insure the solvency of the Council.

Section 5. SERGEANTS-AT-ARMS: Shall maintain order at the discretion of the President, secure, distribute and collect attendance cards, and perform such other duties customer to their office; they shall prevent the distribution of all advertising or other printed matter not pertaining to the business of the body during meetings.

Section 6. EXECUTIVE BOARD: Shall investigate, and act upon all matters referred to them by the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO; it shall transact the business of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, between meetings.

The Executive Board shall meet on call but not less than one (1) meeting each quarter year.

Section 7. Not more than two (2) members of any National or International Union or one (1) member of any Local Union shall be eligible to hold any elective Executive Board office in the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO; President and Secretary-Treasurer excluded.

No delegate shall hold two elective offices.

## ARTICLE X

### NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1.

- (a) Only delegates shall be eligible to seek an elective office.
- (b) No delegate shall be eligible to seek an elective office of President, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President or Secretary-Treasurer, if delegate has not attended a majority of the regular meetings of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, during the twelve months prior to the month in which the election is held.
- (c) All Executive Board members and Trustees, once elected, are required to attend a majority of the regular meetings of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, during the twelve month period prior to the month in which the election is held, to be eligible for re-election.



- (d) No delegate shall be eligible to seek the position as an Executive Officer or member of the Executive Board or member of elected committees unless that delegate's local union, lodge or council pays per capita tax on full membership
- (e) In determining whether a delegate is eligible to hold an elective office under this Section, the minutes of the Great St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, showing attendance at the regular meetings thereof shall be the sole and controlling admissible evidence.

Section 2. NOMINATIONS: Nominations shall be held at the meeting previous to the one at which the election is held. Unless otherwise ordered, nominations and elections shall begin at eight (8:00) p.m.

Section 3. ELECTIONS: All regular elections of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, shall be held at the December meeting each fourth year beginning in 1963. Special elections shall be held when the need arises.

Section 4. HOW CONDUCTED: All elections shall be by ballot except when unanimous. The provisions provided for roll call in Article III, Section 3, shall determine the right to vote and the number of votes to which each local union is entitled.

As each organization is called, the number of eligible delegates thereof present shall come to the front, and each receives one ballot from the tellers. Two of the tellers (four in number) shall be appointed by the President and two by the Vice President. Upon receipt of their ballots, delegates shall be seated, and the next organization called until distribution of ballots is complete.

Each ballot shall show the name of the delegate, the organization represented, and the number of votes the delegate is casting, and all ballots shall become part of the records of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, and shall be preserved and available for examination by any delegate or officer of an affiliated organization for a period of not less than six months.

Section 5. No less than 45 nor more than 120 days prior to an election of labor council officers, the council shall compile and notify affiliate organization of the availability of a list containing the following information: (I) the name and address of each of the central body's elected officers (including Executive Board Members); (II) the name and mailing address of each of the organizations affiliated with the central body; (III) the name of each of the affiliated organization's principal officers; (IV) each organization's projected per capita voting strength and delegate entitlement at the election; and (V) to the extent available, the names and mailing

addresses of the delegates. Officers of organizations affiliated with the local central body shall also be entitled to inspect at the place where the records are kept and to make their own notes concerning the most current underlying records relating to the information included in the list provided above.

## ARTICLE XI

### TERM OF

### OFFICE

Section 1. OFFICERS: As designated in Article VIII shall serve a term of four (4) years, unless their office is declared vacant as provided by this Constitution.

In the event of a vacancy on the Executive Board or the Constitution Committee except the President and/or Secretary-Treasurer, the Board shall be empowered to make an appointment to fill the unexpired term, subject to approval of the delegate body. A special election must be held in the event of a vacancy in the office of President and/or Secretary-Treasurer.

Section 2. STANDING COMMITTEES: All members of Standing Committees shall serve a term of four (4) years unless they are removed from such Committee as provided for in this Constitution.

Section 3. SPECIAL COMMITTEES: All members of Special Committees shall serve until a final report is made on the task assigned to them.

Section 4. UNEXPIRED TERMS: All officers and members of committees, completing unexpired terms, elective, or appointive, shall serve the remainder of the term of their predecessor.

Section 5. All officers and elected Committee members except President and Secretary-Treasurer shall be entitled to serve their full terms.

Section 6. The office of any full-time paid officer of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, shall be declared vacant under the terms of this Constitution when said officer reaches the age of 70. Retirement of said officer shall commence on the first day of the first month following the month in which said officer reaches the age of 70.

## ARTICLE XII

### REMOVAL OF OFFICERS

Section 1. Any officer of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, signing any

document as an officer of this Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, which does not

emanate from this body, shall be subject to trial therefore in conformity with the provisions of Article XVI of this Constitution, upon charges preferred, and if found guilty of such charges, such officer shall be summarily removed from office.

Section 2. Any officer failing to perform his duties in accordance with the spirit and letter of this Constitution and in complete harmony with the objects of this Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, shall be subject to trial therefore in accordance with the provisions of Article XVI of this Constitution, upon charges preferred, and if found guilty such officer shall be summarily removed from office.

Section 3. Any officer failing to attend three (3) consecutive meetings of the Executive Board, after proper notification, without being excused, his office shall be declared vacant.

Section 4. Any officer or members of Standing Committees failing to attend three (3) consecutive meetings of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, without being excused, their office shall be declared vacant.

## ARTICLE XIII

### SALARIES AND EXPENSES

Section 1. The Executive Board shall be empowered to set the salaries of the President and Secretary-Treasurer subject to the approval of the delegate body. Salary increases to be in accordance with and not to exceed the annual percent increases in average hourly earnings for selected occupational groups in the metropolitan area as described in the then current U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics publication. The President and Secretary-Treasurer shall receive four weeks paid vacation annually, and shall be covered by an adequate insurance program, including pension and health and welfare. The President and Secretary-Treasurer shall be reimbursed for such expenses as are incurred in the performance of their duties.

Section 2. SERGEANTS-AT-ARMS: Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) expenses for each meeting necessary for the discharge of a duty assigned to them. TRUSTEES: Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) expenses for each meeting necessary for the discharge of a duty assigned to them.

Section 3. DELEGATES of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, to all conventions, shall receive first class transportation to and from the seat of the convention, and shall be reimbursed for reasonable expenses incurred.

## ARTICLE XIV

### COMMITTEE

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Section 1. STANDING COMMITTEES of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, shall be (a) Constitution Committee of five (5) members; (b) Legislative Committee; (c) Community Services Committee; (d) Education Committee; (e) Committee on Political Education; (f) Ethical Practices Committee.

Section 2. SPECIAL COMMITTEES of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, shall be (a) Resolutions Committee of three (3) members; (b) Any other Special Committee as required by the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

Section 3 ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEES: (a) The Constitution Committee shall be elected at the regular election. ALL OTHER standing and special committees except Committee on Political Education shall be appointed by the President, subject to approval by the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO. (b) The Committee on Political Education shall function as a Committee under By-Laws approved by the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

Section 4. DUTIES OF COMMITTEES: CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE: Shall receive and consider all amendments to the By-Laws; they shall report their recommendations at the next meeting of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE: Shall investigate and report on all matters referred to it; execute in detail all instructions given by the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO; report from time to time on any legislation, or the need thereof, that is of interest to the Greater St. Louis Labor Council AFL-CIO, or any of its affiliated Local Unions.

In an emergency of such nature that delay would endanger the welfare of this body, the Committee in conjunction with the Executive Board, shall have full power to act, and shall submit a complete report of their joint action to the following meeting of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE: Shall conduct and supervise such education projects and related programs of concern to this body and the labor movement as may be approved and referred to it by this body and to survey and suggest such projects and programs for approval of this body.

COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE: Shall receive, consider and report on all matters pertaining to Civic and Community Programs and projects in which the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, participates, and all matters concerning community problems, which are of importance and interest to the Labor Council and the entire community.

ETHICAL PRACTICES COMMITTEE: Shall have the authority to investigate and, where the Ethical Practices Committee finds reasonable cause to believe that a violation of the CODE has occurred, to bring the matter to an appropriate hearing before an impartial hearing panel drawn from within the council, if the matter is not otherwise resolved.

SPECIAL COMMITTEES: The Resolutions Committee shall consider and report on resolutions referred to them at the same meeting such resolutions are referred. All other Special Committees shall complete the task for which they are established and assigned.

Section 5. PERFORMANCE OF DUTIES: Any chairman or member of an appointed committee, failing to perform the duties of his office, shall be subject to removal by the President

Section 6. All Committees shall report regularly to the Labor Council and any Committee which fails to function shall be dismissed and a new committee appointed.

## ARTICLE XV

### INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

Section 1. All elected officers of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, shall be installed at the meeting following their election.

Officers elected in special elections shall be installed immediately.

Section 2. Before entering upon his duties each officer-elect shall assume the following obligation:

"I \_\_\_\_\_,do hereby promise to faithfully perform all the duties of the office to which I have been elected to the best of my ability and to uphold the Constitution of this Labor Council and of the AFL-CIO. I further promise to deliver all property in my possession belonging to this Labor Council to my successor in office and to surrender such property to the President of the AFL-CIO upon his official demand."

Section 3. FAILURE TO QUALIFY: Any delegate elected to office who is not present at the meeting following his election, for installation, shall forfeit his office, and another election shall be held forthwith, unless the elected party sends a reasonable excuse.

ARTICLE XVI  
CHARGES AND  
TRIALS

Section 1. This body shall not recognize any charges against a delegate of this organization, or any officer of this body, unless charges clearly specify the particular section or sections of these laws alleged to have been violated. All charges must be filed with President in writing, and bear the signature of the delegate or delegates preferring the charges. No charges shall be recognized unless said charges are accompanied by the names of two or more witnesses. The names of said witnesses shall not be read in the open meeting. Upon the reading of the charges, the President shall immediately without debate, appoint a special committee of five (5) delegates, none of whom shall be members of the organization of which the accuser or the accused is a member, to investigate whether or not the laws specified have been violated. The committee shall, through its chosen secretary, immediately supply a copy of the charges to the parties accused, notify the parties preferring the charges and the parties accused when and where the Committee will meet to try the case. The committee shall make a complete report of their findings "Guilty or Not Guilty," with such recommendations as in their judgment may be warranted by the evidence submitted.

Section 2. Reports of Trial Committees shall be made to the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, not later than the sixth meeting following the appointment of the Trial Committee. Additional time may be allotted only with the consent of the accused.

Grievances of one union against another herein affiliated shall be made in writing, properly signed, with the seal of the union presenting the grievance, copy of same to be immediately supplied the accused union; said grievance shall, before being presented to the meeting, be referred to the President and a meeting called by him of the parties in an effort to adjust the differences.

Section 3. APPEALS: The final decision of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, in any of the foregoing matters may be appealed as provided in Rule 27 of the Rules of the AFL-CIO Governing Local Central Bodies which reads as follows: "Any final decision of a local Labor Council in a matter requiring a hearing within the Labor Council under these rules may be appealed to the President within 30 days after the decision appealed from. The decision of the President may thereafter be appealed to the Executive Council. Any such appeal shall be filed in writing with the Secretary-Treasurer within 30 days after notice of the action being appealed. Appellants shall have the right to appear before the Executive Council in support of

their appeal. The decision of the Executive Council may be further appealed to the next succeeding convention of the AFL-CIO. Such further appeal shall be filed in writing with the



Secretary-Treasurer at least 30 days prior to the opening of the convention. The appellant shall have the right to appear before any appeals committee of the convention and, except have the right to appear before the convention itself. An individual appellant shall have the right to appear personally before the convention itself only with the consent of the convention. During any such appeal, the original decision of the local Labor Council, or of the President, or of the Executive Council, as the case may be, shall remain in effect unless reversed, modified or temporarily stayed."

## ARTICLE XVII

### GENERAL

### PROVISIONS

Section 1. WITHDRAWALS: Any organization desiring to withdraw from the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, must do so by official notice, under its seal, and then shall, before its release, be charged full per capita tax for the entire month in which such notification has been received by the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

Section 2. ROLL CALL: Any thirty (30) delegates from ten (10) local unions may demand a roll call vote provided the number of delegates required to secure a roll call vote shall not exceed thirty percent (30%) of the delegates present.

Upon direction of a roll call vote, the body shall go into executive session and secure and lock the doors upon the direction of the Chairman to prevent exit or entrance until the roll call vote is completed.

Section 3. INTRODUCTIONS OF RESOLUTIONS: Resolutions cannot be considered unless signed and presented by an affiliated Local Union, District or Local Council, Joint Board, AFL-CIO Department Council, or one or more delegates. All resolutions must be in the hands of the Secretary-Treasurer on Thursday preceding the regular meeting.

Section 4. VACANCIES IN OFFICES: Vacancies in any office or offices of this Council, resulting from any cause, shall be filled in accordance with the laws of election of this Council.

Section 5. SEAL: The Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, shall have an official seal, with appropriate device, which shall be impressed upon all official documents and papers used and issued under the authority of this body. It shall also have an electrotype seal to be printed on all printed matter used by the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO. These seals shall be kept by the Secretary-Treasurer.

Section 6. DONATIONS: No money shall be voted at any time to any individual or labor organization not affiliated with the AFL-CIO, nor for any other purpose other than expenses of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, while there is less than twenty-five hundred dollars (\$2,500.00) in the Treasury, except in case of an emergency and adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) vote.

Section 7. POLITICAL ENDORSEMENTS: No officer or member of an elected or a standing committee shall use his title as an officer of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, to endorse any candidate for any political office, other than those endorsed by C.O.P.E. Any officer or member of an elected or a standing committee, violating this section, shall be automatically removed from office.

Any ten (10) members of the St. Louis Labor Council Executive Board may request early endorsement of a candidate for political office by the St. Louis Labor Council, provided the request is in written form, and further provided, it reaches the St. Louis Labor Council offices in time to be included on the mailed agenda for the next Executive Board meeting.

Section 8. GOOD AND WELFARE: This body may discuss all subjects affecting the interests of labor under the order of "Good and Welfare." No motion may be entertained under "Good and Welfare."

Section 9. No person shall distribute literature or other material at the meeting without permission of the presiding officer.

Section 10. CONFLICT WITH THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR AND CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS CONSTITUTION: Where this Constitution is in conflict with the Constitution and Rules Governing Local Central Bodies of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations, it shall be superseded by the Constitution and Rules Governing Local Central Bodies of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations.

Section 11. The Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO shall exercise all authority vested in it by the Rules of the AFL-CIO Governing Local Central Bodies, and shall also be subject to the limitations contained therein.

Section 12. AMENDMENTS: Amendments proposed to this Constitution shall be read, referred to the Constitution Committee, and included in the minutes before final adoption.

Two-Thirds (2/3) vote of the delegates present is required for adoption. All amendments are subject to the approval of the President of the AFL-CIO.

Approved by American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations this 20<sup>th</sup> day of September, 1957.

GEORGE MEANY  
President

Approved by American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations this 6<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1958 as amended.

Approved by American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations this 26<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1976 as revised.

Approved by American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations this 17<sup>th</sup> day of February, 1977 as revised.

Approved by American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations this 17<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1979 as revised.

Approved by American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations this 1<sup>st</sup> day of December, 1988 as revised.

Approved by American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations this 29<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1994 as revised.

Approved by American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations this 27<sup>th</sup> day of February, 1995 as revised.

Approved by American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations this 13<sup>th</sup> day of November, 1998 as revised.

Approved by American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations this 17<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2001 as revised.

Approved by American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations this 1<sup>st</sup> day of January, 2011 as revised.

## RULES OF ORDER

1. It shall be the duty of the President to preserve decorum, and should any delegate violate the rules the President shall, or any delegate may, call to order the offending delegate, who shall resume his seat until the point of order has been decided. The President shall also have removed from the hall any objectionable person.
2. When two or more delegates rise to speak, the President shall decide who is entitled to the floor.
3. The president shall decide, without debate, all questions of order, subject to appeal to the delegates.
4. When the decision of the President on any question is appealed from, the appellant shall state his ground of appeal, after which the President shall give his reasons for the decision, when, without further debate, the question shall be put thus: Shall the decision of the Chair stand as the Judgment of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO?
5. When a delegate is about to speak or make a motion, he shall arise and respectfully address the Chair, and the Chair shall call the name of the delegate entitled to the floor, who shall confine his remarks to the question under consideration.
6. No delegate shall speak more than once on any subject, nor longer than ten minutes on same, until all delegates who wish have spoken, and not more than twice without consent of a majority of all delegates present.
7. When a question is before the meeting, no motion shall be in order except:
  - (a) To lay on the table;
  - (b) For the previous question;
  - (c) To divide the question;
  - (d) To postpone indefinitely;
  - (e) To postpone to a certain time;
  - (f) To commit or to amend:

which motions shall severally have precedence in the order herein named, and the first four of which shall be decided without debate.

8. While the Secretary-Treasurer is calling the roll it shall not be in order for any delegate to explain his vote; unless by unanimous consent.
9. No motion or proposition upon a subject different from that under consideration shall be admitted under color of an amendment.
10. All questions, except privileged questions, shall be put in the order in which they are made.
11. Any delegate may call for a division of the question when the sense will admit it.
12. When a question is put, every delegate present shall vote, unless the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO, for special reasons, shall excuse him.
13. All questions, unless otherwise provided, shall be decided by a majority of the votes cast.
14. When a motion has been once voted upon any delegate who voted with the majority can move for a reconsideration thereof, not later than the second meeting after such action; but a motion to reconsider having been put and lost, cannot be renewed.
15. A motion to adjourn being decided in the negative shall not again be entertained until some motion, call or order shall have been intervened.
16. No motion to amend the minutes by striking out words or sentences shall be admissible, unless to correct errors of fact or grammar.
17. All resolutions must be submitted in writing.
18. All motions, amendments, substitutes, etc. shall be reduced to writing if the Secretary-Treasurer so desires.
19. When the previous question has been ordered on any motion, the introducer of the original motion shall have the privilege of the floor for five minutes, after which the motion shall be immediately put to a vote.
20. No motion to table any motion or document shall be in order until an opportunity has been given for debate, pro and con.

21. In all cases not covered by the foregoing rules, "Roberts' Rules of Order" shall be authority.

## ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Call to Order
  - (a) Invocation
  - (b) Pledge of Allegiance to our Country's Flag
2. Roll Call of Officers
3. Credentials Report
4. Approval of Minutes
5. Appointment of Resolutions Committee
6. Reports of Officers and Committees
  - (a) President
  - (b) Secretary-Treasurer
  - (c) Executive Board
  - (d) Trustees
  - (e) Delegates to affiliated bodies
  - (f) Standing Committees
  - (g) Special Committees
7. Reading of Communications
8. Unfinished Business
9. New Business
10. Reading of Non-recurrent Bills
11. For the Good and Welfare of the Greater St. Louis Labor Council, AFL-CIO
12. Adjournment