



## **RESOLUTION CONCERNING THE NEED FOR STRONG INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY PROVISIONS IN THE TRANS-PACIFIC PARTNERSHIP TRADE PACT IN ORDER TO PROMOTE U.S. INNOVATION AND PROTECT U.S. JOBS**

WHEREAS, innovation within the biopharmaceutical sector leads to new discoveries that save lives and help this important U.S. industry remain competitive globally; and

WHEREAS, this competitive edge has positioned the U.S. pharmaceutical sector as one of the few manufacturing industries that still maintains a significant employment footprint domestically, supporting more than 3.2 million American jobs; and,

WHEREAS, the 2010 Pharmaceutical Industry Labor-Management Association (PILMA) Jobs & Innovation report states that, “Intellectual property (IP) rights protections are essential for maintaining and improving America’s position within the global, knowledge-based economy”; and,

WHEREAS, the 2010 PILMA Jobs & Innovation report further states that “America must insist on free trade that is fair trade. Trade policies are major determinants of the competitiveness of Americas’ biopharmaceutical industry. We cannot allow the continuation of trade policies that have hampered, and ultimately destroyed, other industries, such as steel, automobiles, and textiles.”

WHEREAS, the 2010 PILMA Jobs & Innovation report further states that “PILMA Supports: Monitoring and enforcing IP obligations under international trade rules, including bilateral and regional free-trade agreements and multilateral agreements, such as the World Trade Organization Agreement;” and,

WHEREAS, AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka stated during a March 2011 speech to the Council on Foreign Relations that “The AFL-CIO is ready to work with the President and his team to make the TPP a new model for America's trade policy. But this will require new thinking on investment, services and government procurement, and the will to move forward on the labor and environment front -- by strengthening commitments, streamlining dispute settlement, building new institutions and improving enforcement;” and,

WHEREAS, the United States Trade Representative (USTR) is currently negotiating the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Agreement with Australia, Brunei, Chile, Malaysia, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, and Vietnam; and,

WHEREAS, TPP members have set a goal of finalizing negotiations in 2012; therefore be it,

**RESOLVED** that the union and industry Trustees of the Pharmaceutical Industry Labor-Management Association call on the United States Trade Representative to make strong biopharmaceutical protections that reflect US law and built off the Korea-US free trade agreement a top priority in negotiating the TPP; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that PILMA specifically supports a 12-year term of regulatory data protection for biologics, which reflects U.S. law; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that PILMA will communicate to Members of Congress, along with other key allies and stakeholders, its support for strong biopharmaceutical protections in TPP and urge them to join PILMA in advocating for this position in conversations with the USTR and other Administration officials.