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5 **A RESOLUTION**  
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7 Calling upon the United States Congress to pass and the President to sign into law  
8 House Resolution 842, the Protect the Right to Organize (PRO) Act of 2021  
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10  
11 WHEREAS, House Resolution 842, the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO)  
12 Act of 2021, would generally improve the rights and protections of workers in the  
13 American workplace and, among other things, do the following:  
14

- 15 • Increase the number of people subject to federal fair labor standards
- 16 • Allow labor organizations to encourage their members to strike concurrent with  
17 employees of a different labor organization striking (also known as secondary  
18 strikes) and subsequently not allowing employers to issue a claim against any  
19 labor organization for a secondary strike
- 20 • All employees represented by a bargaining unit must contribute fees to the labor  
21 organization to cover the costs of representation, regardless of any contradictory  
22 state law
- 23 • Prohibits employer dismissal or discrimination against striking workers
- 24 • Lists as an unfair labor practice the requiring or coercing of employees to attend  
25 meetings which discourage union participation
- 26 • Prohibits employers from punishing employees for union participation,  
27 participation in protected worker activities, or giving employees management  
28 responsibilities or forcing employees to sign agreements waiving the right to join  
29 collective or class-action litigation
- 30 • Establishes penalties for violations of these requirements and allows for greater  
31 enforcement action by the National Labor Relations Board  
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33 ; and  
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35 WHEREAS, Article 23 of the 1948 United Nations Universal Declaration of  
36 Human Rights, to which the United States approved, affirms:  
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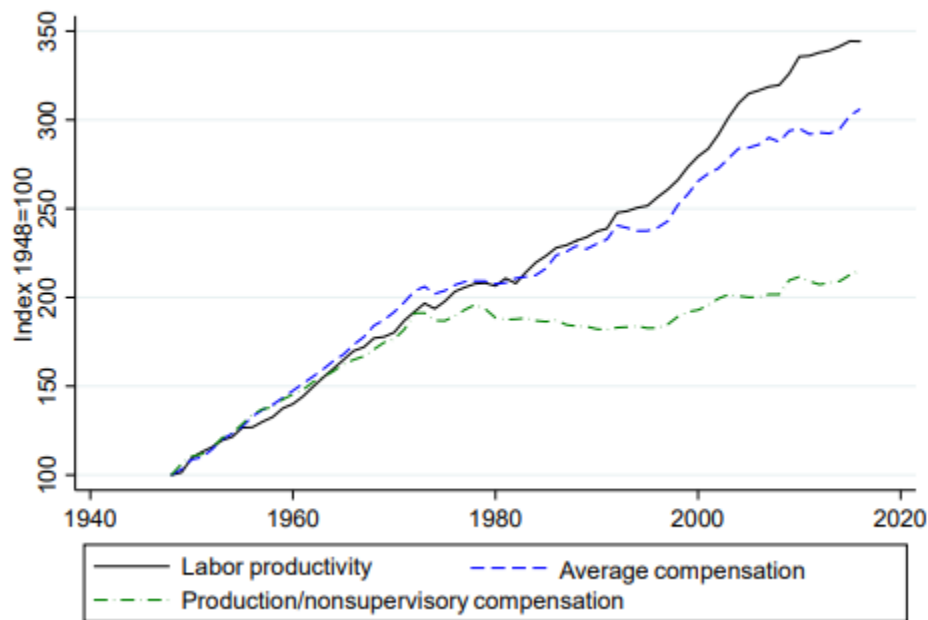
- 38 1. "Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and  
39 favourable conditions of work and to protection against unemployment.
- 40 2. Everyone, without any discrimination, has the right to equal pay for equal work.

- 41 3. Everyone who works has the right to just and favourable remuneration ensuring  
 42 for himself and his family an existence worthy of human dignity, and  
 43 supplemented, if necessary, by other means of social protection.  
 44 4. Everyone has the right to form and to join trade unions for the protection of his  
 45 interests.”

46  
 47 ; and

48  
 49 WHEREAS, since the 1970s, worker compensation in the United States has not  
 50 kept pace with worker productivity, something unions could help address:

*Figure 1: Labor productivity, average compensation and production/nonsupervisory compensation 1948-2016*



Data from BLS, BEA and Economic Policy Institute

51  
 52 ©2017 Anna M. Stansbury and Lawrence H. Summers, “Productivity and Pay: Is the Link Broken?” (National Bureau of Economic  
 53 Research Working Paper 24165)

54  
 55 ; and

56  
 57 WHEREAS, in his 2014 *Capital in the Twenty-First Century*, Thomas Piketty  
 58 exhaustively notes, among other things, how in the previous decade the top 10 percent  
 59 of labor income earned 35 percent of wealth generated, while the bottom 50 percent  
 60 earned only 25 percent of generated wealth, closing with, “The overall conclusion of this  
 61 study is that a market economy based on private property, if left to itself, contains  
 62 powerful forces of convergence, associated in particular with the diffusion of knowledge  
 63 and skills; but it also contains powerful forces of divergence, which are potentially

64 threatening democratic societies and to the values of social justice on which they are  
65 based.”; and

66

67 WHEREAS, the PRO Act would be a step forward in the pursuit of greater  
68 equality, so some are not ‘more equal than others’ and would be a return to the more  
69 stable society enjoyed by the United States in the latter half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century; and  
70

71

72 WHEREAS, the Committee on Intergovernmental Relations, at its meeting of  
73 September 9, 2021, recommended adoption of File No. 21-759 (vote 4-0); now,  
74 therefore,

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76 BE IT RESOLVED, Milwaukee County hereby calls upon the United States  
77 Congress to pass and the President of the United States to sign House Resolution 842,  
78 the Protect the Right to Organize (PRO) Act of 2021 as a first step for a more just  
79 society; and

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81 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Office of Government Affairs staff is authorized  
82 and requested to communicate the contents of this resolution to the President of the  
83 United States and the Wisconsin Congressional Delegation, and support legislation that  
84 achieves the criteria outlined in this resolution; and

85

86 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Milwaukee County requests the County Clerk  
87 provide this resolution to the President of the United States and the Wisconsin  
88 Congressional Delegation.

89

90

91 09/09/21  
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