

## RESOLUTION #2

### **Walter Bergman Human Rights Award Michigan Student Power Network**

**WHEREAS:** The Michigan Student Power Network (MSPN) is a statewide association of progressive student organizations that works to connect student struggles across campuses, issues and identities, in order to share skills and build a statewide movement capable of effecting progressive change; and

**WHEREAS:** Since forming the network in 2014, MSPN affiliates have built strong relationships with AFT Michigan locals and other unions on many campuses, including Central Michigan University, Eastern Michigan University, Grand Valley State University, Lansing Community College, Michigan State University, Northern Michigan University, UM-Ann Arbor, UM-Dearborn, Wayne County Community College, Wayne State University, Washtenaw Community College, Western Michigan University; and

**WHEREAS:** MSPN has developed a successful Student Organizer Fellowship Program. Now in its 3<sup>rd</sup> year, the program will train 25 students in the basics of community organizing, political education, and strategic campaigning, while building statewide bonds between organizers from all over Michigan this school year; and

**WHEREAS:** MSPN has been active in many campaigns, including a statewide march to deliver demands on behalf of Michigan's young people; engaging students in the 2014, 2016, and 2018 elections; protesting Emergency Financial Management; protesting the murder of Black and Brown people at the hands of the police; pressuring university regents to support lower tuition; building solidarity alongside local unions during organizing drives and contract campaigns; and lobbying to promote the MSPN Reclaim Higher Ed platform; and

**WHEREAS:** MSPN's 2018 goals include registering 5,000 voters, expanding their network to new campuses, pushing for increased funding for higher education through lobbying and direct action, supporting comprehensive survivor-centered sexual assault legislation, and supporting voting rights and workers' rights ballot initiatives;  
**THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY**

**RESOLVED:** AFT Michigan thanks and honors the Michigan Student Power Network as the 2018 recipient of the Walter Bergman Human Rights Award.

Submitted and Recommended for adoption by: Human Rights Committee  
Approved by AFT Michigan 75<sup>th</sup> Convention (May 19, 2018)