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International Longshoremen's » » Association « «

AFFILIATED WITH AFL-CIO
AND CANADIAN LABOUR CONGRESS

Resolution of Support for the Port at Gulfport

A RESOLUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL LONGSHOREMEN'S ASSOCIATION, AFL-CIO, LOCAL #1303, ACKNOWLEDGING AND ENDORSING THE PROPOSED RESTORATION AND REDEVELOPMENT CONCEPT AS ADOPTED BY THE MISSISSIPPI STATE PORT AUTHORITY FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF THE MISSISSIPPI STATE PORT AT GULFPORT.

WHEREAS, on August 29, 2005, Hurricane Katrina struck the Mississippi Gulf Coast and with neighboring states causing the greatest natural disaster ever to occur in the State of Mississippi and the United States, including almost complete destruction of the facilities and infrastructure of the Mississippi State Port at Gulfport; and

WHEREAS, Local #1303 is part of the largest union of maritime workers in North America, the International Longshoremen's Association, AFL-CIO, representing upwards of 65,000 longshoremen on the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts, Great Lakes, major U.S. rivers, Puerto Rico and Eastern Canada.

WHEREAS, the concept adopted for restoration and redevelopment of the Port facilities would allow and accommodate future growth of Port facilities which could bring substantial, new and better jobs; a higher quality of life; facilitate and maximize the future growth of Port operations through private investment while at the same time seeking to minimize community displacement, disruption and intrusion by port activities and operations; and bring business and economic development opportunities into Gulfport, Harrison County, the coastal region, and the State of Mississippi; and

WHEREAS, it is recognized by the International Longshoremen's Association, AFL-CIO, Local #1303, and its members that restoration and redevelopment of the Port at Gulfport is vital to the continued economic recovery and development of Gulfport, Harrison County, the Mississippi Gulf Coast, and the entire State of Mississippi from the devastating effects of Hurricane Katrina; and

WHEREAS, the International Longshoremen's Association, AFL-CIO, Local #1303 wishes to express its support for the concept adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Mississippi State Port at Gulfport for restoration and redevelopment of the Mississippi State Port at Gulfport, finding and declaring the same essential to our joint mission and purpose of advancing the well being of our members, especially those in Gulfport, Harrison County, and South Mississippi; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the International Longshoremen's Association, AFL-CIO, Local #1303 does hereby express its support for the concept adopted by the Board of Commissioners of the Mississippi State Port at Gulfport for restoration and redevelopment of the Mississippi State Port at Gulfport.

Donald Evans
President, Local #1303
International Longshoremen's Association, AFL-CIO