

NEW JERSEY STATE AFL-CIO

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August 27, 2015

To All Affiliates:

New Jersey State AFL-CIO Votes to Not Patronize Carl Icahn-Owned Taj Mahal & Tropicana Casinos in AC

The Executive Board of the New Jersey State AFL-CIO has voted unanimously to adopt a resolution to not patronize the Taj Mahal and Tropicana casinos, two Atlantic City properties owned by billionaire robber baron Carl Icahn.

Icahn stripped workers of their health care and retirement benefits and abruptly eliminated their paid half-hour meal breaks. He has refused to negotiate in good faith. For these reasons, we respectfully ask you and your union members to stand in solidarity with our brothers and sisters at UNITE HERE Local 54, who have borne the brunt of Icahn's ruthless and greedy assault on workers.

This matter is urgent. The resolution is simple – do not patronize these properties with any union business, and please disseminate this information to your members and ask them to share it with their families and friends.

The resolution is enclosed.

We thank all the unions whose members joined us to protest Icahn's egregious actions following our COPE Endorsement Conference in June. We ask you to continue to support Local 54 by letting them know their brothers and sisters in the New Jersey State AFL-CIO, Central Labor Councils, affiliated unions and friends and family stand shoulder to shoulder with them in solidarity until their health care, retirement security and other benefits are restored to them.

In Solidarity,

Charles Wowkanech
President

Laurel Brennan
Secretary-Treasurer

CW:LB:jd
Enclosure
OPEIU: 153

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RESOLUTION IN FAVOR OF NOT PATRONIZING THE TAJ MAHAL & TROPICANA CASINOS

WHEREAS, UNITE HERE Local 54 members who work at the Taj Mahal Casino in Atlantic City have had their health insurance, pension, paid lunch breaks and other benefits stripped from them by Carl Icahn; and

WHEREAS, as a result of those cuts 44% of those surveyed reported having no health insurance, and another 23% reported relying on government subsidies for their health insurance; and

WHEREAS, the General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board is prosecuting twenty (20) charges against the Taj Mahal Casino for unfair labor practices; and

WHEREAS, unions constitute a significant percentage of the Atlantic City convention business; and

WHEREAS, workers at the Taj Mahal recently voted to authorize a strike by a 4 to 1 margin; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey State AFL-CIO and Central Labor Councils believe that access to good health care is a fundamental human right; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey State AFL-CIO and Central Labor Councils wish to support our brothers and sisters at the Taj Mahal; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the New Jersey State AFL-CIO and Central Labor Councils stand in solidarity with the men and women of the Taj Mahal; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the New Jersey State AFL-CIO and Central Labor Councils call on all of its member organizations to support the workers at the Taj Mahal by not scheduling conventions, retreats or meetings at either the Taj Mahal or the Carl Icahn-owned Tropicana Casino in Atlantic City; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the New Jersey State AFL-CIO and Central Labor Councils call on Carl Icahn to stop his assault on workers at the Taj Mahal and restore health, retirement and other benefits.

Submitted by: UNITE HERE Local 54
Adopted: New Jersey State AFL-CIO Executive Board
Date: Thursday, August 27, 2015

OPEIU: 153