

RESOLUTION NO. 11-14

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FAIRFAX
IN SUPPORT OF STATE OF WISCONSIN PUBLIC WORKERS UNION**

WHEREAS, the Town of Fairfax has long supported a living wage for all public employees and private employees of contractors doing business with the Town; and,

WHEREAS, our economy is struggling and our state budgets are distressed because increased unemployment and plummeting home prices have reduced economic demand and tax revenues; and,

WHEREAS, weakening the ability of any workers to negotiate fair pay and secure retirements will weaken demand further, hurting the overall economy; and,

WHEREAS, when public sector workers can negotiate for fair pay, healthy workplaces and secure retirements, it tends to create higher standards within the private sector, thus "raising all boats"; and,

WHEREAS, making public sector work less secure does nothing to make private sector jobs more secure; and,

WHEREAS, in order for our federal, state and local governments to serve the people effectively they need to be able to attract skilled, productive workers with fair pay, healthy workplaces and secure retirements, all of which will be damaged if public workers can no longer collectively bargain for their compensation packages; and,

WHEREAS, state budgets are reeling from an economic recession caused by reckless financial speculation, high end tax cuts, artful tax avoidance and the quicksand of war; and,

WHEREAS, the projected shortfalls in public retirement benefits derive mostly from skyrocketing private insurance health care costs and poorly performing pension investments; and

WHEREAS, civil servants in Wisconsin and elsewhere have repeatedly said they are willing to make concessions regarding pay and benefits; and

WHEREAS, workers rights are not a budget line item and a secure middle class is essential to the health and well-being of the nation, including the Town of Fairfax.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fairfax Town Council supports the ongoing efforts of the State of Wisconsin public sector unions to preserve their right to collective bargaining and their constitutional privilege to freely associate to protect the health and welfare of their members, their families and their communities.

The foregoing resolution was duly introduced and adopted on the 2nd day of March, 2011, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ATTEST:

Larry Bragman, Mayor

Judy Anderson, Town Clerk

AGENDA ITEM # 12