

Resolution No. 37

COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENT: Legislative & Political

Re: IAFF Political Endorsements

1 WHEREAS, the PFFUI supports and respects the
2 current IAFF endorsement policy; and

3 WHEREAS, the PFFUI understands the trust
4 conveyed to our IAFF leadership to carry out said
5 policy; and

6 WHEREAS, the PFFUI fully understands the
7 generational and unwavering support Vice President
8 Joseph Biden has given, and continues give, to the
9 IAFF regarding the issues most important to its
10 membership; and

11 WHEREAS, the IAFF endorsed Vice President
12 Joseph Biden in April of 2018, a full 18 months prior
13 to the Presidential general election; and

14 WHEREAS, the IAFF, prior to its endorsement of
15 Vice President Joseph Biden, commissioned a
16 professional polling agency, Zogby Strategies, to
17 conduct a targeted sample of its 160,000 members
18 that are likely to vote in the Democratic Primary; and

19 WHEREAS, at the time of the Zogby Strategies
20 poll, several Democratic candidates for U.S.
21 President had not even announced their candidacies;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, at the time of the Zogby Strategies
24 poll, over twenty Democratic candidates for U.S.
25 President had announced their candidacies; and

26 WHEREAS, at the time of the Zogby Strategies
27 poll, there had been no televised debates among the
28 Democratic Presidential candidates and name
29 recognition of many of the candidates had not yet

30 been established; and

31 WHEREAS, the Zogby Strategies opinion
32 sampling poll commissioned by the IAFF omitted
33 any and all Republican Party candidates; and

34 WHEREAS, IAFF members likely to vote in the
35 Republican Primary were not included in any polling
36 conducted by the IAFF prior to its endorsement of
37 Vice President Joseph Biden; and

38 WHEREAS, the Republican Party holds all
39 Indiana statewide offices, and entertains a super-
40 majority of legislative seats in both chambers of the
41 Indiana General Assembly; and

42 WHEREAS, due to the timing of the IAFF's
43 endorsement of Vice President Joseph Biden for the
44 office of U.S. President combined with the exclusion
45 of any/all Republican candidates from the Zogby
46 Strategies sample poll, many IAFF members
47 throughout Indiana, and surely elsewhere, felt like
48 their voices were not heard; therefore be it

49 RESOLVED, That the IAFF leadership or their
50 appointed body of IAFF members review the IAFF
51 endorsement policy regarding the issues of timing of
52 endorsements, and the utilization of professional
53 polling; and be it further

54 RESOLVED, That the IAFF consider utilizing
55 either or both its member e-mail lists, or its SMART
56 platform, to conduct an unscientific survey of the
57 IAFF membership to be utilized by IAFF leadership
58 as another tool in the political endorsement decision
59 making process; and be it further

60 RESOLVED, That the IAFF be as transparent as
61 possible and provide as much information as possible
62 to the membership to accompany their political

- 63 endorsements including, at a minimum, an Executive
64 Summary or similar communication of endorsement
65 discussions available to members.

Submitted by: Professional Fire Fighters Union of Indiana

Cost Estimate: None

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

CONVENTION ACTION: