

Resolution to "Tear Down the Wall"

Whereas: New technologies have led to the rapid growth of wireless telephone and data applications; while wireline telephony is fast becoming an antiquated technology; *and*

Whereas: Verizon's top management has built an artificial wall separating wireless and other business operations from wireline, and management is using this wall to block union members from the high growth, high profit segments of the company; *and*

Whereas: Five years ago union membership at Verizon was about 70 percent of the company and today it is less than 30 percent; *and*

Whereas: Verizon's management has aggressively interfered with the freedom of workers in Verizon Wireless (and other subsidiaries and divisions) to unite with unionized Verizon workers in the CWA and IBEW; *and*

Whereas: Verizon's major competitor, AT&T, has adopted a more cooperative strategy with all of its employees and AT&T employees routinely form unions through a "majority sign up" process without management interference; *therefore*

Be it Resolved: That tearing down the artificial wall separating the non-union Verizon wireless from the mostly union wireline side of the business must be a top priority in collective bargaining for a new contract in 2011, and organizing for this fight in the contract campaign is preferable *now* while our unions are still a strong force within the company; *and*

Be it further Resolved: That in addition to making a strong demand to "Tear Down the Wall" through collective bargaining, every local union must make it a priority to engage and educate Verizon Wireless employees regarding the benefits of collective bargaining and build *worker-to-worker* unity to achieve a strong voice for the good jobs that our communities need.

Adopted unanimously by IBEW Local 2222 at monthly membership meeting on June 2, 2010