

A PEOPLE'S BILL OF RIGHTS FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

Money for jobs and human needs, not war, banks and corporations!

A draft document stemming from the National People's Summit & Tent City, Detroit, MI, June 14-17, 2009

The economic crisis has drastically impacted the working class and the poor, increasing the official ranks of unemployed workers to over 12 million, almost one in 10, not counting those who can only find part-time jobs or who have given up looking for a job altogether because there are none. **The unemployment crisis along with record home foreclosures, 50 million people with no health care insurance, and severe state and local budget cuts, is a matter of life and death for millions of people. We are in a state of emergency! The federal government must take responsibility and declare a State of Economic Emergency and implement immediate steps to relieve the mass suffering:**

I. Take the trillions of dollars given to the banks and corporations and fund massive programs to provide and guarantee jobs and people's needs:

- Jobs or income for all at livable wages; immediate moratorium on all layoffs, plant closings, pension thefts and union busting; reopen closed plants and put workers back to work
- Free universal single-payer health care for all
- Housing and utilities for all; immediate two-year moratorium on local, state and federal levels to stop foreclosures, evictions and utility shutoffs
- Equal, quality public education for all; stop college tuition hikes; affordable higher education for all; stop school closings and teacher lay-offs
- Reverse budget cuts and restore and expand all social services including welfare programs, food assistance, student financial aid and Medicaid
- Restore and fully fund all pensions; guarantee Social Security and Medicare

II. Take the 700 billion dollars given to the Pentagon each year to provide jobs and human needs:

- Stop the wars and occupations in Iraq and Afghanistan – bring all U.S. troops home NOW
- Stop funding Israeli apartheid and war on the Palestinian people
- No U.S. military intervention anywhere

III. Take immediate steps to ensure social justice and equality, including:

- End racism, sexism and anti-lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender attacks – equality now in all social, legal and economic spheres
- Full legal rights for immigrants; end racist immigrant-bashing
- Full rights and accessibility for people with disabilities
- Bail out youth and students with jobs, education and recreation facilities and programs
- Stop police brutality and murders; rights for prisoners and ex-prisoners; end the death penalty

IV. Take immediate steps to save the natural environment and stop global warming and climate change:

- Make the Pentagon and corporations pay to clean up the environmental disaster they have created
- Develop cheap, efficient alternative energy sources and public transportation
- Stop environmental racism
- Convert all industries and manufacturing to environmentally-safe facilities and processes