**Hello everyone, my name is Megan Dayton and I am MAPE’s statewide President. I would like to talk with you today about resolutions to change our governing documents and why they are important.**

MAPE has several different kinds of governing documents. We have a constitution, bylaws, elections rules, and policies. Starting on January 1 of every year, our members can submit resolutions to the Constitution and Rules committee. A resolution is a formal request to change the constitution, election rules, a by-law, or policy at MAPE that the Delegate Assembly considers. The Board of Directors can make changes to our Bylaws and policies but only our Delegate Assembly can consider modifications to our election's rules and constitution.

The Delegate Assembly brings together member-delegates elected in the previous internal MAPE election to represent their locals. Delegates also vote on items like the annual budget. In addition to making decisions on proposed resolutions, Delegates also get important updates from the union to take back to their locals.

Resolutions are a democratic way to improve our union continually. Every year we consider resolutions, and some excellent, well-thought-out ideas have come from resolutions that help build our power, make our union run more openly, inclusively, and smoothly and help us continually evolve. All of this is necessary for a strong group of organized workers.

The submission deadline can be found on the website each year with details on how to write a resolution and where to submit it. All resolutions need to be submitted by at least two MAPE members. I hope you will consider giving thought to a change you could propose to make our union even better!