Resolution Title: **Resolution to Oppose Marriage Incentives in Reauthorization of the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) legislation**

Submitted by: **Professional Staff Congress, Local 2334**

Whereas, the Senate Finance Committee is appropriating up to $1.5 billion for "marriage promotion activities" in the reauthorization of TANF; and

Whereas, marriage incentive awards will reduce funding for childcare and other programs that facilitate employment; and

Whereas, marriage incentive awards are a misuse of government revenue that would be better spent on improving job skills; and

Whereas, marriage incentive awards can unduly pressure women into unsound or abusive relationships that place themselves and their children at risk; and

Whereas, developing mothers' skills by providing access to education and childcare are more effective strategies to reduce poverty; and

Whereas, marriage does not automatically make low income earners financially secure; and

Whereas, marriage is a serious commitment and should be made without duress;
therefore be it

Resolved, that the American Federation of Teachers (AFT) oppose the marriage incentives being proposed in the reauthorization of the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) bill; and join with other labor organizations to oppose the proposed marriage incentives.

I hereby certify that the above resolution was approved for submission to the 2004 AFT Conventionby the:

Delegate Assembly at a meeting held on **May 27, 2004**

Signed: _____ _____

(President) (Secretary)

Professional Staff Congress **Local 2334**

Local or Retiree Council Name AFT#