

IN MEMORY OF GARY D. KIRKLAND

WHEREAS, Gary D. Kirkland spent the entirety of his adult life dedicated to improving the lives of the working people he represented and to the fight for workers' rights; and

WHEREAS, he was a tireless leader in pursuit of better wages, benefits and working conditions for the members of Local 11 in Portland, Oregon, as an organizer, business manager and secretary-treasurer; and

WHEREAS, he spent decades serving the members of OPEIU, first as an international representative for two years beginning in 1973, international vice president for twenty-five years beginning in 1975, senior international vice president for four years beginning in 2000, and assistant to the OPEIU president for nearly a decade beginning in 2002; and

WHEREAS, his skills and service to OPEIU earned him an appointment as OPEIU's regional director of organizing; and

WHEREAS, he used his well-recognized talents to help build and provide housing for retirees as the executive vice president of the Union Labor Retirement Association; and

WHEREAS, he served for many years as the president of the Oregon Labor Press Co. Board of Directors, a non-profit jointly owned by 20 local labor unions that publishes the Northwest Labor Press, a newspaper that covers much-needed labor-related news in the Pacific Northwest; and

WHEREAS, he served OPEIU as a member of the Finance Committee; and

WHEREAS, he served as chairperson of the Resolutions Committee for nine consecutive OPEIU Conventions; and

WHEREAS, until his death, he continued to remain invested and involved in union affairs, providing his expertise and skills to union officers, staff and members who he worked side-by-side with throughout his long and successful career.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that OPEIU recognizes and expresses its deep appreciation posthumously for Gary D. Kirkland's lifetime of dedication and service. His wisdom and counsel will be deeply missed.

RESOLUTION ADOPTED JUNE 2019