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UNITED FARM WORKERS OF AMERICA, AFL-CIO
THIRD CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION
SELLAND ARENA, FRESNO, CALIFORNIA
AUGUST 26, 27, and 18, 1977

Resolution 22

**DESIGNATION OF MARCH 31 AS
FOUNDING DAY AND AN OFFICIAL UNION HOLIDAY**

Submitted by the National Executive Board

WHEREAS, Cesar Chavez was a migrant farm worker who from his earliest years fought and struggled against an agricultural system that treats farm workers as though they were agricultural implements and not human beings, and

WHEREAS, Cesar Chavez was a migrant farm worker who fought from his earliest days against an agricultural system which brings misery to the lives of farm workers and their children, and

WHEREAS, Cesar Chavez joined Fred Ross, Sr., to work in the Community Service Organization from 1952 to 1962, and

WHEREAS, Cesar Chavez nurtured the dream of a farm worker union and studied the history of labor struggles in this country, and

WHEREAS, Cesar and Helen Chavez made a firm and final decision on March 31, 1962, and moved to Delano, California to begin organizing a national union for farm workers, and

WHEREAS, the decision on that day in March 1962, led to the long farm workers' struggle in California which has produced the first collective-bargaining agreements in U.S. agricultural history, improved wages and working conditions for farm workers in California and other states, and the 1975, California Agricultural Labor Relations Act, and

WHEREAS, this union which began in 1962 will in time serve farm workers all across the nation,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the membership of the United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO sitting in convention in Fresno, California, that this union declare that March 31 of every year will be celebrated as the

founding date of our union, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that every farm worker movement office and entity set time aside on this day for remembering and celebrating the historic beginning of the union.