RESOLUTION CONCERNING transparency legislation

WHEREAS, innovation within the biopharmaceutical sector leads to new discoveries that save lives and help this important U.S. industry remain competitive globally; and

WHEREAS, this competitive edge has positioned the U.S. pharmaceutical sector as one of the few manufacturing industries that still maintains a significant employment footprint domestically, supporting more than 4.4 million American jobs and is responsible for the largest share of business R&D in the U.S. economy; and

WHEREAS, on average a new medicine that goes to market costs $2.6 billion and takes 10 years to go through the entire R&D process; and

WHEREAS, transparency legislation put forth in several states would require the disclosure of proprietary and trade secret information, such as specific pricing, marketing and R&D information that is confidential and proprietary; and

WHEREAS the Pharmaceutical Industry Labor-Management Association (PILMA) has been steadfast in its commitment to providing accessible and affordable health care coverage for its workers and their families and all Americans, and opposes any barriers to access such as high out of pocket costs; and

WHEREAS, disclosure legislation would not reduce out of pocket costs, would not benefit patients, and may have a deleterious effect on the innovation of new treatments and cures; and

WHEREAS, this legislation would be difficult to enforce and regulate, drive up administrative costs, jeopardize investment in biopharmaceutical innovation and R&D; and

WHEREAS, less investment in R&D directly affects employment in the construction industry through decreased capital construction projects, as well as building and retrofitting research and manufacturing facilities; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED that proposed state transparency legislation would have a chilling effect on investment in the biopharmaceutical industry, a reduction in capital construction investment and subsequent employment in the sector; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the trade union and company trustees of PILMA urge legislators to exercise caution when introducing and supporting legislation to curb pharmaceutical costs that could unintentionally reduce R&D, new treatments and cures; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that PILMA will join ongoing collaborative efforts – both within the business community and the trade union movement – to protect innovation industries and affected U.S. workers by fighting legislation that would unintendedly negatively impact these groups.