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Beleaguered Local Cops 'Completely Outnumbered' *Bat- and Pipe-Wielding Union Thugs Rampage in Washington State*

For decades, Right to Work advocates have fought to close the judicially created loophole in federal anti-extortion law that exempts threats, vandalism and violence perpetrated to secure so-called "legitimate union objectives," including monopoly-bargaining and forced-dues privileges over employees.

In explaining the importance of closing the loophole created 38 years ago in the U.S. Supreme Court's controversial 5-4 *Enmons* decision, National Right to Work Committee spokesmen and their allies have pointed out, time and again, that local and state law enforcement are often overwhelmed by violent union conspiracies.

Just last month, the local police in Longview, Wash., a Columbia River port town, became the latest case in point.

At 4:30 AM on September 8, hundreds of International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU/AFL-CIO) militants stormed a new grain terminal at the Port of Longview.

Big Labor thugs broke down the gates, overwhelmed six security guards, and then converged on the terminal of EGT, a joint venture of U.S., Japanese, and South Korean companies that has been targeted by ILWU chiefs.

A week later, security guard Charlie Cadwell testified before U.S. District Judge Ronald Leighton that every ILWU "protester" he saw that night was carrying a baseball bat, lead pipe, garden tool, or other weapon.

As the AP reported, Mr. Cadwell told the judge he was first pulled out of his car by one Big Labor zealot, then another swung a metal pipe at him.

"I told him," Mr. Cadwell continued, "You have 50 cameras on you, and law enforcement is on its way. He said,



CREDIT: AP PHOTO/DON RYAN

In southwestern Washington last month, overpowered police were unable to prevent bat- and ax handle-wielding union thugs

from systematically sabotaging a \$200 million grain terminal. No arrests were made at the scene.

'(Expletive) you. We're not here for you; we're here for the train.'"

Meanwhile, yet another union militant drove off with his car and eventually ran it into a ditch. Mr. Cadwell said "about 40 to 50 people were throwing rocks at him, and that he was hit between his eyes and in his knee," according to the AP account.

'I Wasn't About' to Stop 'These People From Doing Whatever It Is They Were Going to Do'

The ILWU lawbreakers in Washington State evidently feel no more compunction about using threats and violence against police than they

do about assaulting and terrorizing security guards.

Longview police Sgt. Mark Langlois tried to respond to a call that night about dozens of vehicles leaving the ILWU hall in Longview, but a vehicle parked in the middle of the road blocked his path. Next, a bat-wielding union mob threatened the sergeant.

"I was by myself. I was completely outnumbered. I wasn't about to stop any of these people from doing whatever it is they were going to do," Mr. Langlois later testified.

And Mr. Langlois was just one of many police officers who were

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Union Bigwigs' License to Extort

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threatened. "Our teams of four or five officers were confronted by baseball bat- and ax handle-wielding protesters," Cowlitz County Sheriff Mark Nelson told Portland's KOIN-TV.

With neither security guards nor police able to stop them, union toughs went on a rampage.

They cut the brake lines of many rail cars in the EGT terminal and dumped the grain contained in 72 of them. They also smashed windows and cut the air hoses to a grain train.

Altogether, roughly \$150,000 in damage was done, according to EGT's estimate. Yet police were unable to make a single arrest at the scene.

'This Was an Organized, Large-Scale Criminal Event'

"This was an organized, large-scale criminal event," Sheriff Nelson told Longview's *Daily News* September 9. "We're talking about sabotage. We're talking about riotous behavior."

Moreover, top union officials including ILWU International President Bob McEllrath publicly encouraged such activity in advance by participating, for example, in an illegal blockade of deliveries to the EGT grain terminals September 7.

"If business executives anywhere in America openly encouraged and orchestrated sabotage, threats, vandalism and violence against the employees and property of a rival company, they could expect to be charged with felonies and go to prison for a long time," commented Right to Work President Mark Mix.

"The same is true for Americans in virtually every other walk of life.

"Unfortunately, however, in today's America, prosecutions of Big Labor assaults, death threats, sabotage, property destruction, and other serious crimes are extraordinarily difficult.

"The fact is, it is very unlikely Bob McEllrath and other ILWU bosses will be criminally prosecuted for inciting and organizing the Longview mayhem.

"Such prosecutions are frequently hindered because of the judicially-created loophole in the federal Hobbs Act that exempts from prosecution extortionate violence committed pursuant to supposedly 'legitimate union objectives.'

"And one objective that federal labor law clearly deems to be 'legitimate' is to expand the number of employees who are forced to accept union representation and pay union dues as a condition of employment.

"That was, without a doubt, the primary objective of the ILWU bosses when their militant followers were wreaking havoc at the EGT grain terminal on the morning of September 8."

Freedom From Union Violence Act Would Close Lethal Loophole

"What Mr. McEllrath, his cohorts, and their henchmen have engaged in is extortion, as that word is commonly understood," Mr. Mix continued. "But because of the pro-union violence loophole in the federal Hobbs Act, they can't be charged with extortion.

"With the law so heavily tilted in their favor, ILWU bosses who encouraged, helped coordinate, and ratified the threats, violence and vandalism at the Port of Washington are likely to get off scot-free, regardless of how compelling the evidence against them is.

"This is a black mark on the American justice system -- and it makes your blood boil.

"Fortunately, a provision in H.R.2810/S.1507, the Employee Rights Act, now before both chambers of Congress, would at last close the union-

violence loophole the Supreme Court opened up in 1973.

"The provision, also known as the Freedom from Union Violence Act, would hold union officials who plan, commit, or foment extortionate violence against a firm's employees to the same standards as business rivals, gangsters, or anyone else who does the same."

Committee legislative staffers are now working with pro-Right to Work House and Senate members to secure introduction and consideration of *Enmons* repeal as a freestanding bill.

Big Labor Politicians Know Public Opinion Is Against Them on Union-Violence Issue

"Since the High Court's *Enmons* ruling interpreted the Hobbs Act, not the U.S. Constitution, Congress clearly has the authority to override it," Mr. Mix explained.

"Of course, with forced-unionism cheerleader Harry Reid [D-Nev.] in charge of the Senate and union-label President Barack Obama in the Oval Office, it will be a steeply uphill battle to pass the Freedom from Union Violence Act into law this year or next.

"But simply forcing all congressmen and senators to vote on this legislation would mark an important advance and pave the way for a future victory.

"Even Big Labor politicians know public opinion is against them on the union-violence issue. Within the next few years, Right to Work supporters can win this battle. But first we will have to wage an extended and furious fight." 📞



Largely because ILWU chiefs incited hundreds of longshore workers to travel to the Port of Longview to

participate in the September 8 attack, the Seattle and Tacoma ports were shut down that morning.

CREDIT: TED S. WARREN/AP

House Chastises Obama NLRB's Top Lawyer

But Board Abuses Will Intensify Unless Congress Does Much More

On September 15, the U.S. House voted 238-186 to rebuke Acting National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) General Counsel Lafe Solomon for trying to dictate where businesses may or may not expand.

By passing H.R.2587, the Protecting Jobs From Government Interference Act, last month, the House made a judgment that NLRB bureaucrats like Mr. Solomon should not have the power to order an employer to relocate jobs from one site to another.

House members were responding specifically to Mr. Solomon's decision in April to file a complaint against Boeing for initiating a new aircraft production line in Right to Work South Carolina.

In several public statements, Boeing executives had made no bones about the fact that their decision to expand in a Right to Work state was prompted largely by their desire to avoid or at least mitigate multi-billion-dollar revenue losses stemming from disruptive strikes.

Agreeing with International Association of Machinists (IAM/AFL-CIO) union kingpins who had repeatedly ordered employees at Boeing's Washington State and Oregon facilities out on strike, Mr. Solomon claims these statements show Boeing was motivated by "anti-union animus." Consequently, the South Carolina expansion is illegal, declares Mr. Solomon.

The Boeing case is currently before an NLRB administrative law judge and could potentially drag on for years.

As Politics, 'the NLRB Issue Is a Doozy' For Big Labor Politicians

Sponsored by pro-Right to Work freshman South Carolina Congressman Tim Scott (R), H.R.2587 aims to stop Mr. Solomon from penalizing employers legitimately concerned with strikes that disrupt production and alienate customers by telling them where they can or can't locate jobs.

H.R.2587 would modestly reduce the NLRB's current extraordinary power, barring it "from ordering any employer to relocate, shut down, or transfer employment under any circumstance."

This legislation sailed through the House with the support of several



Right to Work President Mark Mix: "At a minimum, the House should consider appropriations amendments

cutting off funds for pursuing the Boeing case and for implementing several other ongoing NLRB power grabs."

members who normally kowtow to the union bosses. That's a sign, as a July 28 *Wall Street Journal* editorial put it, that "a policy of punishing business for building plants and creating jobs in their states . . . is a doozy" for Big Labor politicians.

However, in the U.S. Senate union-label Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.) will very likely be able to muster sufficient votes to stall H.R.2587, despite the reform's popularity.

Indeed, on September 22 Big Labor Democrats torpedoed an effort by pro-Right to Work members of the Senate Appropriations Committee to attach an amendment similar to H.R.2587 to the Fiscal Year 2012 Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Bill.

Moreover, the White House announced well before H.R.2587 passed the House that President Obama opposes it.

Other Countermeasures House Could Take Have Greater Potential

Because the President now unambiguously agrees with the man he unilaterally installed as NLRB general counsel about the Boeing complaint, an H.R.2587 veto can be expected should the bill somehow pass the Senate.

"The National Right to Work Committee supports H.R.2587 and is

encouraged that it could pass the House," said Committee President Mark Mix.

"However, this bill is quite unlikely to become law in the near future, and the Boeing power grab is only one of an array of ways in which the Obama NLRB is now threatening to eviscerate employees' Right to Work.

"In light of these facts, Speaker John Boehner [R-Ohio] and other House leaders must pursue additional means of reining in this rogue agency.

"At a minimum, the House should consider appropriations amendments cutting off funds for pursuing the Boeing case and for implementing several other ongoing NLRB power grabs.

"By refusing to vote for an NLRB budget unless it curtails Obama bureaucrats' worst excesses, the House can actually stop abuses like the Boeing complaint without the cooperation of Harry Reid's Senate or the White House.

"But that will require intestinal fortitude on the part of Speaker Boehner and other House leaders, and ever-intensifying mobilization of Right to Work supporters nationwide."

Mr. Mix urged Committee members to call Speaker Boehner at 202-225-0600 and urge him to pursue all appropriate courses of action to protect employees and businesses from NLRB excesses. 📞

'President Obama, This Is Your Army'

On a Dime, Forced Dues-Funded Union Operatives Can Turn Political

Teamster czar Jim Hoffa's recent remarks introducing President Obama at a Michigan Labor Day event sponsored by a coalition of union bigwigs in Detroit have stirred up considerable public controversy.

Mr. Hoffa vowed to "take out" elected officials who disagree with Big Labor's Tax & Spend and forced-unionism agendas, and coarsely referred to such supporters of limited government as "sons of b****es."

Because of Mr. Hoffa's record of promoting strike violence (for example, a federal judge once ruled he could be held civilly liable for up to 55 attacks, including shootings and assaults, against nonstriking employees of Overnite Transportation, now UPS Freight), his violent rhetoric today is unnerving.

But even if one assumes that Mr. Hoffa intends to "take out" his political foes by engineering their electoral defeat, and nothing more, his introduction of Mr. Obama was remarkable for its frank admission that Organized Labor's massive payrolls will be deployed at length for partisan politics next year.

Standing before a crowd consisting largely of paid officials and staffers for an array of unions, affiliated with both

the AFL-CIO and the Change to Win conglomerates, Mr. Hoffa declared:

"President Obama, this is your army. We are ready to march."

Big Labor Deep Into Politics

What is the magnitude of the political army of which Mr. Hoffa spoke? Data from LM-2 and LM-3 forms alone show it's huge. (All private-sector and a substantial minority of public-sector unions are required to file these financial disclosure forms with the U.S. Labor Department.)

Last year, LM-2- and LM-3-filing unions collected a total of \$8.5 billion in dues and fees from employees who are compelled to accept a union as their "exclusive" bargaining agent.

And roughly 82% of union dues and fees are compulsory: If workers refuse to pay, they get fired.

Moreover, after conducting a study, the National Right to Work Committee has estimated that at least one billion federal tax dollars a year are funneled to union officials through state agencies which administer "job-training" programs.

Forced dues and governmental largesse make it possible for the union hierarchy to spend \$5.7 billion a year,

or \$22 million per working day, on salaries, benefits, and other compensation for union officers and staff members.

In non-election years, union professionals fill their days infiltrating businesses in every state, stirring up hate-the-boss strife among workers.

But during election season, as Right to Work supporters have long known and as Jim Hoffa just publicly admitted, this army is transformed into a full-time political operation.

Union officials drop the work for which they are purportedly paid in order to beat the drum for Big Labor-endorsed candidates.

They run phone banks and get-out-the-vote drives, prepare campaign mailings, and walk precincts.

No other type of non-profit organization has sufficient staff to make "in-kind" contributions to political candidates of anywhere near the magnitude federal disclosure-filing unions' roughly 173,000 paid officers and staffers are able to make.

And business certainly has no parallel political army, since profit-minded shareholders rarely if ever are willing to release their managers from normal business for months on end so that they can politick full time.

Right to Work Is the Cure

"Federal and state laws authorizing forced unionism are the reason Jim Hoffa and other union chiefs have a \$5.7 billion-a-year political army at their disposal," said Right to Work Vice President Mary King.

"The Committee is determined to end this abuse of employees.

"The practicable way to stop the economic and political damage Big Labor wreaks is passage of more state Right to Work laws and a national Right to Work law taking away the union bosses' forced-dues privileges."

Ms. King urged Committee members to contact their federal elected officials through the congressional switchboard, 202-224-3121 or 202-225-3121, and ask them to cosponsor and seek roll-call votes on S.504 and H.R.2040, the two national Right to Work measures now before Congress. 🇺🇸



CREDIT: REUTERS

It's because of federal and state laws authorizing and promoting forced union dues that Teamster czar Jim

Hoffa and other Big Labor bosses have at their disposal a \$22 million-a-day political army.

Oklahoma Celebrates Right to Work Anniversary

Sooner Experience Reinforces Case For Federal Forced-Dues Repeal

On September 25 a decade ago, one of Big Labor's most formidable fear-and-loathing campaigns ever failed when Oklahoma approved a statewide ban on compulsory union dues and fees and thus became the nation's 22nd Right to Work state.

Almost immediately, the very union bosses who had been shrilly predicting that a Sooner Right to Work law would swiftly lead to disaster moved to prevent the law from having any impact at all.

When the Right to Work law had been in effect just seven weeks, Big Labor lawyers launched an underhanded bid to overturn it. This legal attack kept the law's future under a cloud for an extended period.

The state's attorneys and Right to Work attorneys intervening on behalf of several independent-minded workers prevailed in 2003 when the Oklahoma Supreme Court unanimously rejected AFL-CIO union kingpins' demand that it overturn the law.

Oklahoma's Private-Sector Compensation Growth Has Far Outpaced U.S. Average

"Since Big Labor's legal assault on Oklahomans' Right to Work was thwarted, the state has had one of the

strongest economies in the country, as measured by a number of key indicators," said Greg Mourad, vice president of the National Right to Work Committee.

"For example, from 2003 to 2010, inflation-adjusted U.S. Commerce Department data show private-sector employer outlays for employee compensation, including wages, salaries, benefits and bonuses, grew by 12.2% in Oklahoma, after adjusting for inflation.

"Sooners' real private-sector compensation expanded at a rate more than three-and-a-half times as great as the national average of 3.4%, and faster than in 41 other states."

Oklahoma Also a Standout For Job Creation

"Private-sector employment is another major indicator that Oklahoma's Right to Work law has helped boost economic growth, as proponents predicted it would," Mr. Mourad continued.

"According to the U.S. Labor Department, from 2003 to 2010, private-sector employment in Oklahoma increased by 3.2%, even as it fell by 1.0% nationwide and inched up by an average of just 0.02% in

Oklahoma's forced-unionism neighbor states."

The experience of Oklahoma is compelling.

But it simply reinforces what was already clear from the experiences of the 21 other states with similar laws prohibiting the firing of employees for refusal to pay dues or fees to an unwanted union: Right to Work measures make sense on economic as well as moral grounds.

This is true both at the state level and the federal level.

In fact, if Congress had never adopted the National Labor Act (NLRA) authorizing forced-dues exactions from private-sector employees across the country, states would never have needed to adopt Right to Work laws in the first place.


National Right to Work Act Wouldn't Add a Word To Federal Labor Law

Fortunately, legislation now pending in Congress as H.R.2040 and S.504 would evenhandedly protect the freedom of private-sector employees nationwide to join or not join a union by eliminating all current federal labor-law provisions that authorize forced union membership, dues, or fees.

"The National Right to Work Act, sponsored in the House by Rep. Steve King [R-Iowa] and in the Senate by Sens. Jim DeMint [R-S.C.] and Rand Paul [R-Ky.], wouldn't add a single word to federal labor law," emphasized Mr. Mourad.

"It would simply strike out a handful of pro-forced unionism provisions in the NLRA and the Railway Labor Act that represent a gross violation of the individual employee's freedom of choice.

"The record shows these provisions are also an economic albatross as our nation struggles to recover from the worst recession in decades.

"Americans deserve to know which of their politicians, federal as well as state, support the unjust, economically unviable forced-unionism system. For that reason alone, congressional leaders should let H.R.2040 and S.504 receive full House and Senate consideration." 



In 2001, Sooners defied Big Labor by approving a statewide ban on forced union dues. Since its Right to Work law

took effect, Oklahoma has become a national leader in private-sector compensation and job growth.

Senator 'Stood Behind' Right to Work Principle

Malcolm Wallop Opposed Compulsory Unionism, Without Fear or Favor

Thirty-five years ago this August, a staunchly pro-Right to Work, but obscure GOP state senator named Malcolm Wallop was running 34 points behind in his challenge to Wyoming three-term U.S. Sen. Gale McGee, a Big Labor Democrat.

Respected pundits didn't expect the race ever to get close.

But less than three months later, after an extensive National Right to Work Committee campaign had alerted Wyoming citizens about the union-boss power grabs Mr. McGee could help ram through Congress if reelected, Mr. Wallop soundly defeated the incumbent.

As even the *Washington Post* noticed from afar at the time, the McGee-Wallop race "brought unions and right-to-work groups into direct battle."

Former Right to Work President: Sen. Wallop Kept His Promises to Constituents

"In a letter he sent out in late August 1976 to Wyoming citizens who had inquired about his stance on compulsory unionism, Malcolm Wallop said forthrightly: 'I believe in the work of the [National Right to Work] Committee,'" noted former Committee President Reed Larson.

"Mr. Wallop added that he would 'stand behind the principle' of Right to Work as a U.S. senator.

"From the time he took his oath of federal office in 1977 to the day he retired from the Senate in 1995,



CREDIT: LOS ANGELES TIMES

Regardless of who was in the White House, Sen. Wallop energetically defended the Right to Work.

Malcolm Wallop kept his pro-Right to Work promises to his constituents."

During Mr. Wallop's first years in the Senate, standing up for the Right to Work meant standing up as a Republican to the Big Labor-favoring policies of Democrat President Jimmy Carter.

In 1977 and 1978, Mr. Wallop successfully opposed the Carter administration's so-called labor-law "reform," which would have used the threat of exorbitant fines to browbeat employers into acquiescing to the forced unionization of their employees.

In the floor debate leading up to one of a record six cloture votes on Mr.

Carter's phony "reform," Mr. Wallop eloquently summed up why Big Labor was so determined to get this legislation passed.

Union officials, the senator charged, "no longer compete for the minds and loyalty of the workmen of this country. They want them handed to them. They want an indentured situation where they do not have to go out and work for members."

Mr. Wallop Fought Big Labor Appeasement in Reagan and Bush 41 White Houses

Years later, Mr. Wallop defended the Right to Work with just as much passion when it was being undermined by Big Labor appeasers in his own political party.

In 1979, union-label appointees on the National Labor Relations Board ruled that private-sector employees at the Patrick Air Force Base and Cape Canaveral in Right to Work Florida may be forced to pay union dues, or be fired. The NLRB's rationale was that these facilities are "exclusive" federal enclaves.

Three years later, Reagan-appointed Solicitor General Rex Lee shocked and disappointed Right to Work supporters when he issued a brief calling on the U.S. Supreme Court to deny review of an appeals court decision upholding the NLRB's restriction on states' prerogative to pass Right to Work laws.

"In response to Mr. Lee's betrayal, Sen. Wallop quickly agreed to sign on to a joint letter to President Reagan from principled Right to Work supporters on Capitol Hill calling on the White House to change course," Mr. Larson recalled.

"Unfortunately, this effort wasn't successful, and the NLRB power grab in *Lord v. IBEW* stands to this day. In other cases, however, Mr. Wallop's principled stance prevailed.

"In 1991, working closely with Right to Work officers, the senator stopped the George H.W. Bush Administration from appointing forced-unionism ideologue Mary Cracraft to a second five-year NLRB term."

On September 14, Malcolm Wallop passed away at his ranch home near Big Horn, Wyo. He will be missed by Right to Work supporters everywhere. 📞

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Union Propaganda Mangles Facts

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scope of government union bosses' monopoly-bargaining privileges in several other ways.

"S.B.5 is more comprehensive than the other state public-sector Right to Work law enacted in March, Wisconsin's Budget Repair Act.

"The Badger State law protects the freedom of teachers and many other public employees to refuse to bankroll an unwanted union, but leaves untouched the forced-dues privileges of public-safety and public-transportation union bosses."

National Right to Work Helped Mobilize Public Support For Reforms

"Grass-roots support for the public-sector Right to Work measures in Ohio and in Wisconsin was mobilized, in significant part, by the Committee's e-mail and telecommunications activities," Mr. Mix noted.

"Both these laws represent important advances for the Right to Work cause -- especially the Ohio statute, because it protects all state and local employees from forced union dues. But both laws are also in danger of being reversed."

The more immediate threat to Right to Work is in the Buckeye State.

During the spring and early summer, union strategists successfully collected the number of signed petitions needed to block implementation of S.B.5 and put their forced-dues reinstatement referendum before voters on November 8.

In Wisconsin, a Big Labor-inspired court challenge that had kept the Budget Repair Act in limbo for months was rebuffed by the state Supreme Court in June.

However, a second legal bid to invalidate the law, filed by lawyers representing a host of government unions, is now pending in federal court.

"The National Committee is offering our advice and counsel, as well as financial resources, to Ohio citizens who are battling to keep their new public-sector Right to Work law on the books," said Mr. Mix.

"And in Wisconsin, National Right to Work Foundation attorneys have helped three public servants file a motion to intervene in the ongoing Big Labor lawsuit to overturn the Budget Repair Act.

"If the motion succeeds, these independent-minded employees will be able to present their own arguments to the court for why their Right to Work should continue to be legally protected."

Big Labor Flooding Ohio Airwaves With Ads Designed To Confuse Electorate

As this month's Right to Work Newsletter goes to press, national and state union bosses are spending millions of dollars, most of it derived from dues and fees employees are forced to pay as a job condition, to defeat Issue 2, the Ohio referendum that must pass if S.B.5 is to take effect and become permanent law.

"Union officials clearly know that the overwhelming majority of Ohioans support the principle that no one should be denied a job, or lose a job, because he or she refuses to pay dues or fees to an unwanted union," commented Mr. Mix.

"Big Labor is also well aware of the fact that, in a state where, over the last decade, private-sector compensation

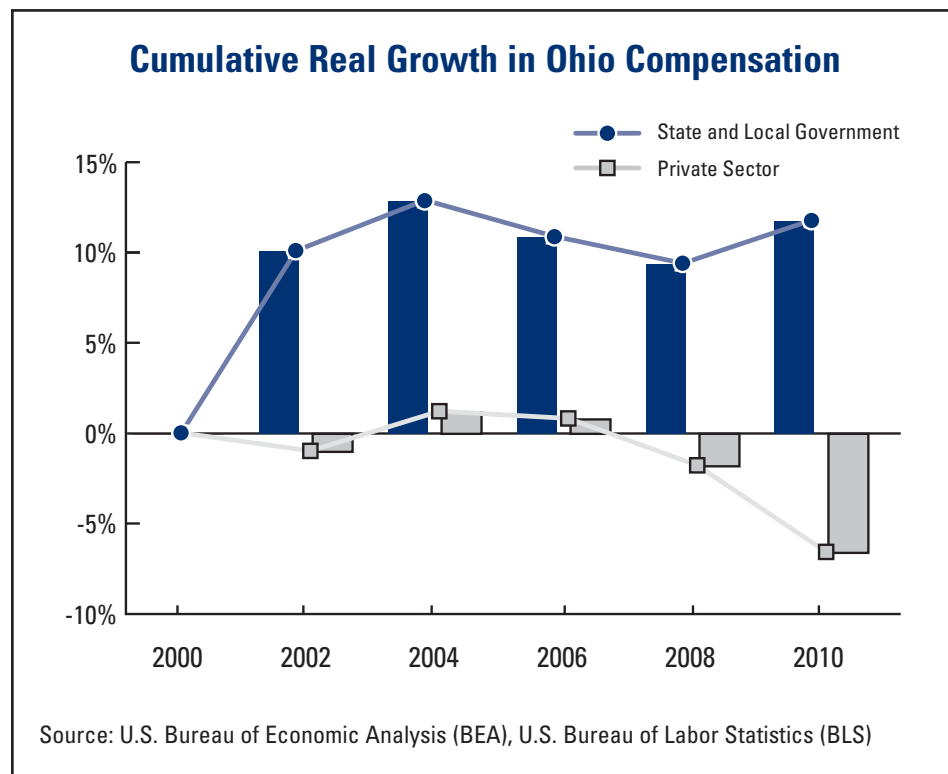
has fallen by more than six percent, but state and local government compensation has increased by nearly 12%, voters know something must be done to restore the balance.

"That's why the TV and radio ads with which the union hierarchy is now flooding the Ohio airwaves try to divert public attention from what S.B.5 would actually do and frighten people with talk about slashing school and public-safety budgets.

"The fact is, S.B.5 does not say anything about how much money the state of Ohio will dole out to local schools and police and fire departments in the future.

"It will, however, make it far less difficult for local elected officials to spend whatever money they have at their disposal prudently, so as to provide taxpayers good services at a reasonable cost. And it will protect each individual public servant's freedom to join or not join a union."

Mr. Mix vowed that the National Committee would throughout this month and over the first week in November contact hundreds of thousands of identified Right to Work supporters in Ohio to ensure that they understand what is at stake in Issue 2, and act accordingly. 📌



Even as Ohio's private sector shriveled over the past decade, Big Labor's forced dues-fueled electioneering and lobbying

machine helped the Buckeye State's heavily unionized government sector expand by nearly 12%.

Public Servants' Right to Work in Jeopardy

Union Bosses Aim to Kill Recent Buckeye State Reform Next Month

Over the past decade, the citizens of forced-unionism Ohio have been afflicted with one of the worst-performing state economies in the country.

Across the U.S. as a whole, despite the severe recent recession, private employers' inflation-adjusted outlays for employee compensation (including wages, salaries, bonuses and benefits) did increase from 2000 to 2010, by an average of 4.3%.

And many states fared much better than that. In the 22 states with Right to Work laws on the books protecting both private- and public-sector employees from being fired for refusal to pay dues or fees to an unwanted union, real private-sector employee compensation grew by an aggregate 11.3%.

Private employees in 20 of the 22 Right to Work states experienced 2000-2010 compensation growth greater than the national average.

Unfortunately, in the 28 states without Right to Work laws on the books, private-sector outlays for employee compensation rose only by a combined 0.7%, after adjusting for inflation. Thirteen of the 14 states with the lowest compensation growth lack a Right to Work law.

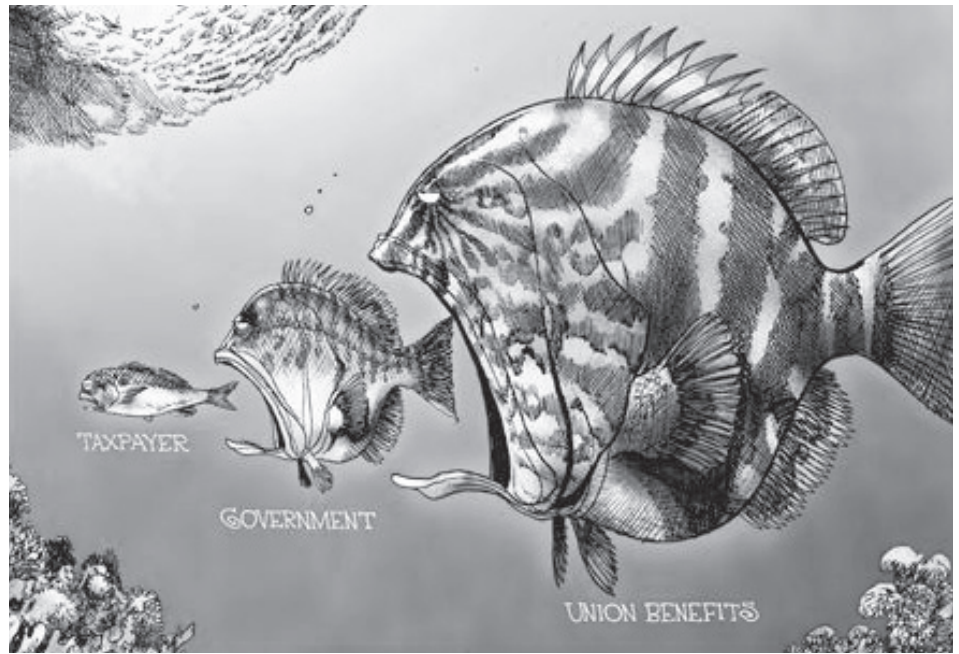
Ohio was one of just five states with negative real private-sector compensation growth over the last decade. In 2010, Ohio's business expenditures for private employee compensation were 6.6% less than they had been in 2000.

Region, Job Mix Can't Account For Buckeye State's Shrinking Private Employee Compensation

When confronted with such data, apologists for the forced-unionism policies that prevailed across the board in Ohio for decades until this year try to explain them away by blaming the Buckeye State's location in the U.S. Midwest or its historically high manufacturing density for its abysmal economic record.

But such excuses won't wash.

From 2000 to 2010, real private-sector employee compensation in the five Midwestern Right to Work states (Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, and South Dakota)



CREDIT: MICHAEL RAMIREZ/INVESTORS BUSINESS DAILY

The experience of state after state shows that public-sector compulsory unionism as well as private-sector compulsory

unionism devours job- and income-creating opportunities for taxpaying businesses and employees.

increased by an average of 11.5%. All five of these states enjoyed compensation growth greater than the national average.

In contrast, real private-sector compensation in Ohio and the six other Midwestern forced-unionism states (Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri and Wisconsin) fell by an aggregate 5.3%.

Moreover, a number of Right to Work states in which manufacturing's share of total employment a decade ago was roughly equal to, or higher than, Ohio's enjoyed above-average private-sector compensation growth over the past decade. Examples include Right to Work North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee.

Actions of Forced Dues-Funded Politicians Cripple Private-Sector Growth

"The evidence indicates it is the pro-forced union dues policies that have long been entrenched in Ohio, rather than any other factor, that are the source of the Buckeye State's chronic economic woes," charged Mark Mix, president of the National Right to Work Committee.

"Private-sector compulsory unionism and government forced unionism have both inflicted major damage on Ohio and many other states. But in recent years government union bosses have surely wrought the most harm of all. Today, most employees nationwide who are under union monopoly control are government employees."

Mr. Mix explained: "Wherever union chiefs wield forced-dues powers, a huge portion of the loot they rake in goes into efforts to elect and reelect state and local, as well as federal, Big Labor politicians.

"Such politicians have a broad agenda that greatly impedes private-sector job and income growth.

"Fortunately, this spring two states enacted significant reforms that -- if they withstand ongoing Big Labor-led attempts to remove them from the books -- can begin undoing the damage over the course of the next few years.

"Ohio's new public-sector Right to Work law, still often referred to as Senate Bill 5, includes provisions protecting the Right to Work of all categories of state and local employees. S.B.5 also reduces the

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