



NATIONAL RIGHT TO WORK NEWSLETTER

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Committee Members Push For Right to Work Votes *Roll Calls Would Show Which Politicians ‘Are Just Union Lackeys’*

Elections across the country that could potentially determine whether the recent rapid progress of the national Right to Work movement will continue, or be halted and perhaps even rolled back, are now just a few months away.

But many of the U.S. House members and senators who have announced they are seeking re-election this year and will, in all likelihood, be on the ballot come November, have yet to take a clear stand on a fundamental question regarding U.S. labor policy:

Should federal law continue to authorize and promote the termination of millions of private-sector employees merely if they refuse to pay dues or fees to a union they may not want, and may never have asked for?

A ‘Win/Win Scenario For Compulsory-Unionism Foes Across America’

The National Right to Work Committee, of course, has long labored in each two-year election cycle to get as many congressional incumbents and challengers as possible on the record regarding federally imposed forced union dues and fees and other restrictions on the individual employee’s freedom of choice.

This year, the Committee is striving again to get presidential, House and Senate candidates to take clear stances regarding key Right to Work issues through its federal Survey 2020 program.

Citizens mobilized by Survey 2020 can be expected, by the time November arrives, to have gotten at least one candidate on the general-election ballot in a majority of federal contests to pledge 100% support for the Right to Work.

However, practically speaking, there is only one way to put every member of



Credit: Getty Images

By supporting roll-call floor votes on H.R.2571 and S.525, House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy (left) and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell can hasten the day when no American is forced to bankroll a union, or be fired.

Congress on the record in opposition to or in favor of compulsory unionism: holding roll-call House and Senate floor votes on H.R.2571/S.525, the National Right to Work Act.

Committee President Mark Mix commented:

“The fact is, nearly 80% of Americans oppose forcing employees to pay union dues as a condition of getting or keeping a job.

“Having floor votes on the National Right to Work Act will be a call-to-arms for hundreds of thousands of grass-roots opponents of forced unionism in key contested states and House districts nationwide.

“Without roll-call votes on H.R.2571

and S.525, it will be far more difficult for concerned citizens to hold Big Labor’s puppet politicians in Congress accountable in November.

“Right to Work roll-call votes are a win/win scenario for compulsory-unionism foes across America.”

Forced Union Dues and Fees Would Be Stopped Without Adding a Word to Federal Law

“Politicians can either vote to free workers from forced-dues shackles, or face repercussions from freedom-loving constituents on Election Day if they

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Issue Puts Big Labor ‘in a Panic’

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don’t,” explained Mr. Mix.

“Either way, we win.”

The need for H.R.2571 and S.525, respectively introduced on Capitol Hill by Congressman Joe Wilson (R-S.C.) and by Sen. Rand Paul (R-Ky.), is easy to understand.

As a consequence of a handful of provisions in federal law, unless private-sector unionized workers are protected by a state Right to Work law, they may be forced on pain of firing to pay tribute to the union wielding monopoly-bargaining privileges in their workplace.

The Wilson/Paul legislation would put a stop to forced union dues and fees without adding a word to federal law.

Instead, H.R.2571 and S.525 would simply repeal the current provisions in federal labor law that permit and encourage the termination of employees for refusal to pay money to an unwanted union.

The Worker Knows Best Whether Monopoly Bargaining Is Personally ‘Beneficial’

Mr. Mix noted that compulsory union dues are especially outrageous when the worker from whom they are extracted has good reason to believe he or she would be better off, economically speaking, union-free.

“Forced union dues for harmful ‘representation’ are a common occurrence,” he explained.

Mr. Mix cited the admission of Sheldon Leader, a law professor who is generally a strong supporter of Organized Labor, that

under monopoly bargaining workers who don’t want a union are “often actually made worse off than they were before.”

The eminent late Pennsylvania law professor Clyde Summers strongly concurred, rejecting union-boss attempts to use monopoly bargaining as an excuse for forced union dues.

Under “exclusive” union representation, noted Dr. Summers:

“Full-timers may bargain to limit the jobs of part-timers, seniority provisions may disadvantage younger workers, and wage increases of the low skilled may be at the expense of the highly skilled.”

Mr. Mix concluded: “The worker is the best judge of whether he or she personally benefits from union monopoly bargaining. Unlike current federal labor law, H.R.2571 and S.525 recognize this important fact.”

Throughout 2019, Right to Work members and supporters mobilized by the Committee sent postcards, letters and emails to their politicians and signed petitions, urging them to cosponsor and seek roll-call votes on federal forced-dues repeal.

Forced-Dues Repeal Continues to Gain Support in Congress

Thanks primarily to Right to Work activists’ persistence and determination, the number of H.R.2571/S.525 sponsors had risen to 88 in the House and 24 in the Senate by the time this Newsletter edition went to press in early March.

Among the House members who

recently became Right to Work cosponsors after hearing from their freedom-loving constituents are Congressmen James Comer (R-Ky.), Bradley Byrne (R-Ala.), and Chip Roy (R-Texas).

“Forced unionism is unjust to employees and unpopular with the American people,” said Mr. Mix.

“Unfortunately,” continued Mr. Mix, “all the leading Democrat presidential candidates this year are thumbing their noses at public opinion and pledging publicly to eliminate all current state Right to Work laws if they capture the White House.

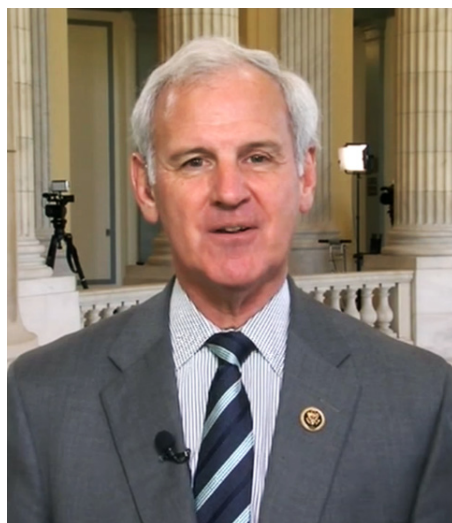
“The single most certain way to ensure this doesn’t happen is for both chambers of Congress to hold roll-call floor votes on the National Right to Work Act now, just a few months in advance of Election Day.

“Putting every member of Congress on the record in favor either of terminating or of perpetuating federally imposed forced union dues and fees will put a stake through the heart of Big Labor’s plot to seize total control over Washington, D.C.

“The fact is, even though it’s almost impossible to get them to say it publicly, the evidence is clear that union bosses themselves know public opposition to compulsory unionism is massive and intense.”

Mr. Mix recalled that, just a few years ago, union consultant Gordon Lafer, one of the most prominent anti-Right to Work activists in America, couldn’t help admitting: “Almost every union I know is in a panic about what to do about Right to Work.”

“Dr. Lafer ain’t seen nothing yet,” said Mr. Mix. “Big Labor’s real time to panic will be after floor votes on forced-dues repeal are held in Congress!” 📣



Members of the U.S. House sponsoring H.R.2571 in February after hearing from freedom-loving constituents mobilized by the Committee include Reps. James Comer (Ky.), left, Bradley Byrne (Ala.), center, and Chip Roy (Texas).

Least Affordable States Are All Forced-Dues

Research Finds Right to Work Protections Help Lower Living Costs

In early February, the Jefferson City-based Missouri Economic Research and Information Center (MERIC), a state government agency, published its annual comparative cost-of-living indices for 2019.

As MERIC explains on its website, it “derives the cost of living index for each state by averaging the indices of participating cities and metropolitan areas in that state.”

(The city/metropolitan area indices are derived from an ongoing nationwide survey conducted by the nonpartisan, Arlington, Va.-based Council for Community and Economic Research.)

Thirteen of the 15 Lowest Cost-of-Living States Protect the Right to Work

The MERIC indices released a few weeks ago estimate the average annual cost of living for each state, as well as for the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico.

The National Institute for Labor Relations Research (NILRR) has now used these data to calculate average annual costs of living for Right to Work states and forced-unionism states.

Twenty-seven states have already adopted and implemented Right to Work laws protecting employees from federal labor law provisions authorizing forced union dues and fees as a condition of getting or keeping a job.

The 27 Right to Work states combined had a population-weighted cost of living

6.3% below the national average in 2019.

The 23 forced-unionism states combined had a population-weighted cost of living 19.6% above the national average.

Consequently, as a group, forced-unionism states are 27.7% more expensive to live in than Right to Work states.

(MERIC itself does not weigh states based on population size in calculating its indices. For that reason, the national average of population-weighted states does not equal 100.)

The correlation between forced-unionism status and a higher cost of living is robust.

Not one of the 14 highest-cost states in 2019 has a Right to Work law. But 13 of the 15 lowest cost-of-living states protect employees’ Right to Work.

Excessive Government Red Tape Associated With Higher Costs For Consumers

John Kalb, vice president of the National Right to Work Committee, commented:

“There is a compelling case to be made that compulsory unionism actually fosters a higher cost of living.

“Union officials wielding forced-dues privileges funnel a large share of the conscripted money they reap into efforts to elect and reelect politicians who favor higher taxes and heavier regulation of business.

“And many economists credibly argue that excessive government regulation is a

major factor behind high housing, energy and other costs in forced-unionism states like California, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and Massachusetts.

“Moreover, decades of academic research by economists such as Thomas M. Carroll and Richard J. Cebula have shown that one side benefit of Right to Work laws is that they help reduce the cost of living in jurisdictions where they are in effect.”

Employees Care Most About What Their Paychecks Can Buy

Mr. Kalb continued:

“Ignoring the findings of economists like Drs. Carroll and Cebula, Big Labor apologists sometimes feebly try to argue forced unionism doesn’t *cause* higher costs. But there is no getting around the economic significance of the strong correlation between forced unionism and higher costs.”

“What matters most to employees seeking better lives for themselves and their families, and employers seeking to attract and retain good employees, is not nominal wages and salaries.


“It is what those wages and salaries can buy in the location where the employees and their families live.

“That’s why honest efforts to make comparisons of annual wages and salaries and other types of income in Right to Work states versus forced-unionism states must always be informed by MERIC’s or some other nonpartisan comparative cost-of-living index.

“For example, in 2018, the real average annual compensation per private-sector employee in Right to Work states was more than \$1,500 higher than the average per employee compensation in forced-unionism states, using MERIC’s indices to adjust U.S. Commerce Department data for regional cost-of-living disparities.

“Unfortunately, state income data cited by Big Labor propagandists frequently do not factor in cost-of-living differences at all.

“And even when they are incorporated, cost-of-living differences are grossly and arbitrarily understated by forced-unionism apologists.”

Mr. Kalb commended the Institute for its tenacious efforts to set the record straight regarding Right to Work states, forced-unionism states, and real, spendable income. 

Value of \$1,000 in America's Least Affordable States, 2019

Hawaii	\$521	Connecticut	\$791
California	\$726	New Jersey	\$808
New York	\$728	Rhode Island	\$842
Oregon	\$746	Maine	\$858
Massachusetts	\$769	Vermont	\$875
Alaska	\$779	Washington	\$908
Maryland	\$784	New Hampshire	\$922

All 14 are compulsory-unionism.

Source: Missouri Economic Research and Information Center

On average, forced-unionism states are 27.7% more expensive to live in than Right to Work states. And there is a compelling case to be made that compulsory unionism actually fosters a higher cost of living.

Illinois: Rising Debt, Fleeing Taxpayers

Forced-Unionism State Running Out of Time to Fix Its Finances

According to a new analysis, based primarily on data from Moody's Investors Service, Illinois taxpayers are on the hook for a total of \$424 billion in state and local retirement debt.

Divide Illinois's \$424 billion in retirement debts by the state's 4.8 million households, and it comes to a "shadow mortgage" of \$90,000 per household, as Wirepoints, a Wilmette, Ill.-based nonprofit, reported in February.

How did the Prairie State get in such a deep hole? Quite simply, over the course of decades, Big Labor public officials repeatedly sought to please government union bosses, who wield monopoly-bargaining power over most of the state's civil servants, by making extravagant promises that were effectively impossible for taxpayers to keep.

Hardworking Illinoisans Are Refusing to Be Left Holding the Bag

Not surprisingly, more and more Illinois taxpayers are refusing to be left holding the bag.

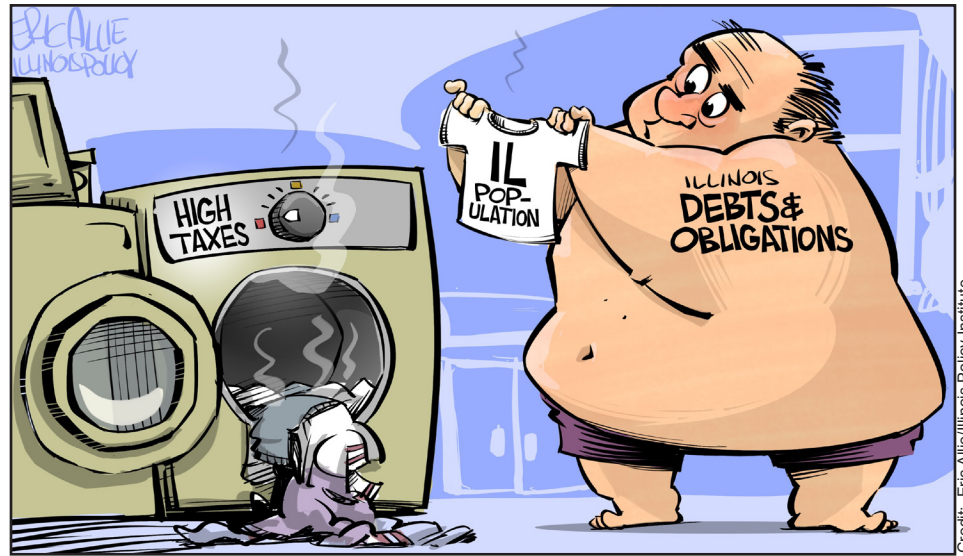
They are pulling up stakes and moving to other states -- typically those with Right to Work protections for employees -- that have managed their finances less irresponsibly. Of course, as this happens, the "shadow mortgage" on the taxpayers who remain increases even more.

At the state government level alone, Illinois has accumulated more than \$233 billion in debt in its five pension funds.

"That dwarfs the public pension debts of Right to Work Florida and Texas, both of which have far larger populations than does Illinois," noted Matthew Leen, vice president of the National Right to Work Committee.

"Moreover, Right to Work Indiana and Wisconsin, Illinois's neighbors to the east and the north, respectively rank #2 and #6 in the country for having the lowest unfunded pension liabilities, according to a 2019 analysis prepared for the American Legislative Exchange Council.

"Many Illinoisans already see the writing on the wall. They recognize that, because of the irresponsible actions of state politicians who have been elected and re-elected with lavish forced dues-funded support from the union political machine, their already high tax burdens are destined to go even higher.



Credit: Eric Allie/Illinois Policy Institute

The cataclysmic combination of unpayable public debts and a shrinking taxpayer base could before too long leave Illinois politicians with no way to avoid reining in Big Labor's special legal privileges.

"Taxpayers who have viable opportunities to get out are seizing them, in greater and greater numbers.

"In 2018 alone, according to data recently released by the IRS's Statistics of Income division, Illinois lost net totals of 86,000 tax filers and dependents and \$5.57 billion in taxable income as a consequence of out-migration to other states."

To Save the State, Big Labor Special Privileges Must Be Revoked

"This was no anomaly," emphasized Mr. Leen. "As Wirepoints pointed out last summer, from 2000 to 2016, Illinois lost an average of \$2.4 billion in taxable income a year due to net outflow of taxpayers to other states. And that figure doesn't even include any of the income taxpayers earned after the first year of their departure."

"To make Illinois a viable place to start a business and/or rear a family, several major policy changes must occur in the relatively near future.

"One change for which Wirepoints has made a very compelling case is that public officials reform future accruals for government pension benefits for employees who have already been hired, as well as for those who haven't been hired yet.

"Unfortunately, because of illogical and partisan rulings by the Illinois

Supreme Court, the people must first amend the state constitution to empower public officers to modify government pension benefits before they are even earned.

"And once the so-called 'pension-protection' constitutional provision is amended, union bosses will still be able to use their monopoly power under state law to block needed reforms in the way public employees are compensated.

"Therefore, to save Illinois, it will also be necessary for lawmakers to remove government union bosses' monopoly-bargaining power over employee pay, benefits, and work rules."

Given that Big Labor has dominated Illinois politics for decades, prospects for genuine, dramatic reforms in the state capital may seem slim, said Mr. Leen.

But just a few months from now, fed-up citizens can send a clear message to politicians in Springfield, Ill., that they must rein in out-of-control spending by rejecting the 60% hike in the state's maximum income tax rate that union-label politicians have put on the November 2020 ballot.

"If the income-tax-hike scheme is thwarted," explained Mr. Leen, "a fiscal catastrophe will be staring Illinois legislators in the face.

"At that point, a significant share of them may recognize the time is up for a number of erstwhile sacred cows, including forced union dues and government-sector union monopoly bargaining." 📌

Compulsory Union Dues Challenged in Colorado

Lawmakers in Denver Hear the Case for a State Right to Work Law

Until recently, Robert Blackwell, an employee of the Pueblo, Colo.-based company Colorado Fire Sprinkler, was a victim of a scheme to force workers into union membership without their consent.

In 2018, thanks in part to free legal representation he received from the National Right to Work Legal Defense Foundation, the National Right to Work Committee's sister organization, Mr. Blackwell secured the freedom to keep his job without joining or bankrolling a union.

Unfortunately, up to 190,000 other private-sector workers in Colorado today are still being corralled into unions, because it is one of 23 states without a Right to Work law.

Colorado's lack of Right to Work protections means lost opportunities for career advancement as well as less personal freedom.

For example, according to the U.S. Commerce Department, from 2007 to 2017, employment at majority-owned U.S. affiliates of foreign firms skyrocketed by 44.4% in the five western Right to Work states (Arizona, Idaho, Nevada, Utah and Wyoming).

That's a nearly 26% greater gain than Colorado's.

Right to Work Often a Key Factor When Job-Creating Site Decisions Are Made

Area Development magazine's surveys demonstrate that anywhere from 50%-80% of site selection consultants and business leaders consider a state Right to Work law to be either "important" or "very important" in their site decision-making.

As compelling as such data are, the fact is that grassroots support for the Right to Work is driven primarily by moral concerns, not economics.

Other private organizations are responsible for selling their services before individuals use them and must pay for them.

It is time for freedom of association to be applied to union membership.

Today's Right to Work activists recognize what Abraham Lincoln recognized back in 1858, when he observed, in an Illinois speech rejecting the notion that slavery is morally or politically acceptable when imposed by a popular vote:

"I believe each individual is naturally entitled to do as he pleases with himself and the fruit of his labor, so long as it in no



Credit: Colorado House Republicans

Right to Work activist Jon Gorham: "Good unions don't need forced dues, and bad unions don't deserve them."

wise interferes with any other man's rights"

In Colorado, a Right to Work bill (H.B.1169) was introduced at the commencement of the 2020 session. On February 25, it was heard in the Committee on State, Veterans and Military Affairs.

The legislation was sponsored by Reps. Kim Ransom (Douglas County) and Patrick Neville (Littleton), along with Sens. Bob Gardner (El Paso County) and Vicki Marble (Fort Collins).

These prime sponsors were joined by 19 additional sponsors in the Colorado House and three additional Senate sponsors.

"No Coloradan should be compelled to pay dues to an organization he or she does not believe in," the National Right to Work Committee expressed in a letter from Mark Mix in early February.

The Committee is assisting state-level

activists in their efforts to make Colorado America's 28th Right to Work state.

"Without Right to Work protections, there is little incentive for union officials to offer a good service" to the rank and file, explained Colorado Citizens for Right to Work Executive Director Jon Gorham in his public testimony.

"The fact is, good unions don't need forced dues, and bad unions don't deserve them."

Politicians Choose Forced Unionism Over Worker Freedom

Besides being morally right, standing up for each worker's freedom to do as he or she pleases with the fruit of his or her labor is politically smart. Opinion polls show the vast majority of Americans in every region of the country agree forced unionism is just plain wrong.

This year's Right to Work bill was defeated in a committee vote on February 25.

In the process, however, nine of Colorado's 65 state representatives had to go on the record for worker freedom or forced dues. That will make it far easier for concerned citizens to hold them accountable in the future.

Right to Work supporters will never give up until victory is won.

In other states like Indiana and Oklahoma, Big Labor politicians blocked bills like H.B.1169 for years before state bans on forced unionism were ultimately adopted.

With more politicians going on the record this year, Colorado has a better chance to be the next. 

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Beltway Democrats' Pact With Crooked Union

Nancy Pelosi Reaffirms Partnership With 'Unethical' UAW Kingpins

In a legal memorandum submitted to a federal judge in early February, recommending a two-year prison sentence for crooked former United Auto Workers (UAW/AFL-CIO) union official Michael Grimes, Assistant U.S. Attorney Eaton Brown declared:

"The culture of corruption within senior leadership of the UAW is systemic. The need to transform the *unethical, greedy and self-indulgent behavior characteristic of the UAW leadership* [emphasis added] is long overdue."

On February 11, the same day Mr. Brown's words were cited by journalist Robert Snell in the *Detroit News*, the Chicago-based communist publication *People's World* featured a report regarding efforts by U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and other D.C. Beltway Democrats to deepen their alliance with the UAW brass.

Union Bosses 'Embezzled Money' From Workers, 'Shook Down Union Contractors'

At the UAW Legislative/Political Conference in February, Ms. Pelosi (D-Calif.), along with other union-label politicians like Reps. Conor Lamb (D-Pa.) and Abby Finkenauer (D-Iowa), unapologetically courted the support of a union that is the subject of an ongoing criminal investigation.

In Mr. Snell's words, the investigation has already revealed that UAW officials "embezzled money from worker paychecks, shook down union contractors and schemed with auto executives."

On February 7, Vance Pearson, until recently the UAW's Region 5 director and a close aide of former UAW President Gary Jones, became the eighth UAW official to be convicted of a crime in connection with the ongoing federal probe.

He pleaded guilty after being accused of "helping embezzle more than \$1.5 million in union funds spent on personal luxuries for labor leaders, including golf, cigars, private villas and liquor in Palm Springs, Calif., and elsewhere," as a *Detroit News* account explained.

According to the *News*, the plea deal portrays Mr. Pearson "as carrying out orders" from Mr. Jones and his predecessor as UAW president, Dennis Williams, "to rent private villas and buy large quantities of cigars and alcohol."



Credit: United Auto Workers (UAW/AFL-CIO)

If U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) has her way, autoworkers in current Right to Work states like Michigan and Tennessee will be forced to bankroll the shady UAW union, or be fired.

Mr. Pearson covered up such expenditures "by filing phony reports with the union."

For nearly a decade, Mr. Pearson, Mr. Jones, Mr. Williams, and at least four other UAW bigwigs participated in this "racketeering enterprise," according to federal prosecutors.

Federal prosecutors are now investigating whether UAW kingpins "received cash kickbacks or bribes in exchange for awarding lucrative contracts" to Michigan businessman Jason Gordon "to supply union-branded merchandise."

Sitting UAW union President Rory Gamble is one of the officials whose association with Mr. Gordon is currently being "probed."

Pro-Union Coercion Policies Are Key Sources Of Union Corruption

Government-authorized monopoly bargaining, which makes employees almost completely dependent on union officials for their job security and pay increases, and forced union dues are key reasons why dishonest, greedy people like Vance Pearson frequently choose to become union officials.

And the freedom of the individual employee to refuse to bankroll corrupt union officials, now protected by Right to Work laws in 27 states, serves as a significant, albeit far from sufficient, check on union bosses who are inclined

to spend workers' dues for their personal benefit.

Unfortunately, legislation recently rubber-stamped by the U.S. House of Representatives would effectively eliminate all state Right to Work laws and thus make it even easier for shady union bosses to abuse workers.

National Right to Work Committee Vice President Greg Mourad explained:

"On February 6, a 224-member majority of House members, led by Nancy Pelosi, gave the green light to H.R.2474, the so-called 'PRO Act,' which would render Right to Work laws meaningless for private-sector employees by authorizing the extraction of forced union fees from employees as a job condition nationwide. [For more information about the PRO Act, see page eight.]

"The same week the PRO Act sailed through the House, Ms. Pelosi even had the nerve to enlist operatives of the corrupt UAW union to help elect this November a Senate that would join the House in giving the go-ahead to the PRO Act, as well as a President who would sign it into law!

"If Nancy Pelosi and company have their way, unionized autoworkers in current Right to Work states like Michigan and Tennessee will be forced to bankroll the UAW 'racketeering enterprise,' or be fired."

Mr. Mourad vowed that the National Right to Work Committee and its members would do everything possible to ensure that Ms. Pelosi and her cohorts do not succeed. 🇺🇸

Betrayed by D.C. Swamp Solons

Continued from page 8

chamber that nothing less than their wholehearted support for this scheme would be regarded by Big Labor as acceptable:

“Those who would oppose, delay or derail this legislation, do not ask us -- do not ask the [Organized] [L]abor movement -- for a dollar or a door knock. We won't be coming.”

‘American Dream’ Lives In Right to Work States

“Having to choose Richard Trumka or their constituents, 66 Right to Work state solons chose Mr. Trumka,” said Mr. Mix.

The PRO Act is a smorgasbord of special-interest delights for the union hierarchy.

Right to Work destruction is the worst provision of all, but many others are also virulently anti-employee.

For example, one H.R.2474/S.1306 provision would statutorily mandate, almost as soon as any union certification campaign begins, that employers hand over employee business phone numbers, e-mail addresses, and work schedules to union organizers.

Employers would permanently be required to hand over to union organizers the personal information of all employees who might be unionized, including employees who personally asked their employer not to do it.

“If the 14(b) evisceration and other pro-forced unionism provisions in the PRO Act were adopted,” commented Mr. Mix, “the results would be disastrous for workers’ living standards as well as for their personal freedom.”

As an example, Mr. Mix cited recently-updated U.S. Bureau of the Census (BOC) data showing that it is far less difficult to make the transition from renter to homeowner in Right to Work states than in states where employees aren't protected from compulsory unionism:

“The BOC's tracking of housing authorizations show there were 3.64 permits for construction of privately-owned single-unit houses per 1,000 residents in the 27 Right to Work states as a group last year.

“That's well over double the 2019 average of 1.55 per 1,000 residents in the 23 forced-dues states.”

‘Nowhere to Flee’ For Families Who Couldn't Afford to Buy a Home

“Without Right to Work states,” Mr. Mix continued, “there would certainly be far fewer jobs that pay enough to buy a single-family home nearby created across the U.S.

“And families who couldn't afford to buy a home in slow-growth forced-unionism states wouldn't have anywhere

to flee.

“A future without Right to Work protections anywhere in the U.S. might seem like a dream come true to union bosses who care only about how much money they can extract from workers, and how much money they have to spend on pampering themselves and keeping politicians at their beck and call.

“For ordinary Americans, however, it would be a nightmare.”

Members Urged to Contact Every Politician Who Voted For ‘Power Grab’

“The politicians voting for the PRO Act in the face of public opposition to compulsory unionism that is now as overwhelming and passionate as it has ever been can be expected to face harsh electoral repercussions in 2020 and beyond,” predicted Mr. Mix.

At the same time, he urged Right to Work activists across the country to contact elected representatives voting for the PRO Act through the congressional switchboard, 202-224-3121, and urge them to change course before it's too late:

“Make your voices heard. Call every politician who voted for this massive Big Labor power grab, and demand an apology for their vote to put the shackles of forced unionism on independent-minded employees in every state of the country.”

Mr. Mix added that Right to Work supporters whose U.S. representatives voted against H.R.2474 may also want to call them to express their thanks. 📞

Voting to Kill Constituents' Right To Work

Ruben Gallego (Ariz.)

Raúl Grijalva (Ariz.)

Tom O'Halleran (Ariz.)

Greg Stanton (Ariz.)

Kathy Castor (Fla.)

Charlie Crist (Fla.)

Val Demings (Fla.)

Ted Deutch (Fla.)

Lois Frankel (Fla.)

Alcee Hastings (Fla.)

Al Lawson (Fla.)

D. Mucarsel-Powell (Fla.)

Donna Shalala (Fla.)

Darren Soto (Fla.)

D. Wasserman Schultz (Fla.)

Frederica Wilson (Fla.)

Sanford Bishop (Ga.)

Hank Johnson (Ga.)

David Scott (Ga.)

Cynthia Axne (Iowa)

Abby Finkenauer (Iowa)

Dave Loebsack (Iowa)

André Carson (Ind.)

Peter Visclosky (Ind.)

Sharice Davids (Kan.)

John Yarmuth (Ky.)

Cedric Richmond (La.)

Debbie Dingell (Mich.)

Dan Kildee (Mich.)

B. Lawrence (Mich.)

Andy Levin (Mich.)

E. Slotkin (Mich.)

Haley Stevens (Mich.)

Rashida Tlaib (Mich.)

B. Thompson (Miss.)

Alma Adams (N.C.)

G. Butterfield (N.C.)

David Price (N.C.)

Steven Horsford (Nev.)

Susie Lee (Nev.)

Dina Titus (Nev.)

James Clyburn (S.C.)

Steve Cohen (Tenn.)

Jim Cooper (Tenn.)

Colin Allred (Texas)

Joaquín Castro (Texas)

Lloyd Doggett (Texas)

V. Escobar (Texas)

Lizzie Fletcher (Texas)

Sylvia Garcia (Texas)

V. Gonzalez (Texas)

Al Green (Texas)

S. Jackson Lee (Texas)

Eddie Johnson (Texas)

Marc Veasey (Texas)

Filemon Vela (Texas)

Donald Beyer (Va.)

Gerald Connolly (Va.)

Elaine Luria (Va.)

A. D. McEachin (Va.)

Robert Scott (Va.)

A. Spanberger (Va.)

Jennifer Wexton (Va.)

Ron Kind (Wis.)

Gwen Moore (Wis.)

Mark Pocan (Wis.)

The U.S. House members listed above all voted on February 4 to take away the freedom of their own constituents to get and keep a job without being forced to bankroll a union. Committee members and supporters in their districts are urged to call 202-224-3121 to express their outrage.

Foisting Forced Unionism on Their Own States

Sixty-six Politicians From Right to Work States Join War on 14(b)

Early this year, 224 members of the U.S. House of Representatives, including 66 from Right to Work states, voted for legislation that would cut the heart out of every state Right to Work statute and constitutional provision that is currently on the books.

The cynically mislabeled “Protecting the Right to Organize” Act, or PRO Act -- rubber-stamped by the House on February 6 -- would accomplish this objective by inserting language in federal labor law that renders Section 14(b) of the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) effectively meaningless.

Since 1947, Section 14(b) has explicitly recognized that states have the authority to protect employees from being corralled into a labor organization, even though federal law generally permits forced unionism.

But the PRO Act (H.R.2474/S.1306) states that the extraction of forced fees from employees for union monopoly bargaining, regardless of whether it benefits or hurts them personally, shall be “valid” notwithstanding “any State or Territorial law.”

Decision of 224 House Members to ‘Kowtow to the Union Brass’ Is ‘Disturbing’

National Right to Work Committee President Mark Mix commented:

“For the first time since 1965, the U.S. House has voted to obliterate the individual employee’s freedom to choose not to bankroll an unwanted union in Right to Work states that already have state laws



Having to choose Richard Trumka or their constituents, 66 Right to Work state solons chose Mr. Trumka.

protecting this freedom.

“Five-and-a-half decades ago, loyal Committee members and supporters regrouped after the House rubber-stamped destruction of Section 14(b) of the Taft-Hartley Act, and led the successful battle to save state Right to Work laws by launching an extended debate to stall 14(b) repeal in the Senate.

“In 2020, Committee members are optimistic Right to Work destruction can once again be blocked in Congress’s upper chamber.

“But the decision of 224 House members to kowtow to the union brass once again, after all these years, is disturbing.

“After all, in 1965, there were only 19 state Right to Work laws on the books, and just over a quarter of the private-sector employees in the U.S. were covered by

one of them.

“Today, thanks largely to Committee supporters’ grit and determination, there are 27 state Right to Work laws in effect, and more than half of the U.S. workforce is protected by one of them.

“Since 1965, Big Labor has spent vast sums of money on state-level efforts to wipe out Right to Work laws.

“But over this entire period, it has had no success in any state whose citizens have had the opportunity to experience, even for a short time, what prohibiting forced union dues and fees means in practice.”

Back H.R.2474 Unreservedly, Or Big Labor Won’t Give You ‘A Dollar or a Door Knock’

“Why,” asked Mr. Mix, “did five-and-a-half dozen U.S. representatives from Right to Work states just vote to foist on their states a coercive labor regime that their constituents have manifestly rejected?”

Among the 66, a handful, including H.R.2474 lead sponsor Bobby Scott (D-Va.), seem to be tunnel-visioned proponents of compulsory unionism, plain and simple, noted Mr. Mix.

But many others, he added, appear to have been intimidated by Big Labor into backing this radically anti-Right to Work legislation against their own better judgment.

Just before Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) held the House roll-call vote on H.R.2474, AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka warned all the members of the

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Each and every one of these gifts is a testament to our members’ love of individual liberty. Together, their collective strength serves as a bedrock for winning an American future where no worker is forced to pay union dues.

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