



NATIONAL RIGHT TO WORK NEWSLETTER

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Message to Congress: Americans Yearn to Be Free *Politicians Pressed to Keep Pro-Right to Work Campaign Promises*

In November 2018, roughly 200 federal candidates were elected to the U.S. Congress after having cosponsored legislation to repeal forced union dues and fees, or after, in response to a National Right to Work Committee candidate survey, having pledged to do so.

Today, the vast majority of U.S. House of Representatives members who pledged to support forced-dues repeal in 2018 are already cosponsors of H.R.2571, the National Right to Work Act.

But a relative handful of the representatives who answered their 2018 Committee surveys 100% in favor of the Right to Work, such as U.S. Representatives Timothy Burchett (R-Tenn.), Carol Miller (R-W.Va.), and Russ Fulcher (R-Idaho), have yet to follow through by cosponsoring forced-dues repeal.

This spring and summer, the Committee will be mobilizing members and supporters in a number of targeted congressional

districts and states to convince fence-sitting politicians to cosponsor H.R.2571 or its Senate companion measure, S.525.

Later this year, Committee mobilization will be geared primarily toward persuading Big Labor politicians to change course and stop supporting compulsory unionism.

Constituents of Reps. Burchett, Miller and Fulcher Strongly Favor Right to Work

Throughout the course of the Survey 2020, candidates will be given several chances to return their surveys and answer in support of American employees' Right to Work.

National Right to Work President Mark Mix commented:

“This year, as in previous election years, millions of grassroots Right to Work supporters are being enlisted to lobby federal politicians seeking election or

reelection to oppose compulsory unionism across-the-board.

“Tim Burchett, Carol Miller, Russ Fulcher, and other U.S. representatives who are currently being lobbied through the survey program represent some of the most strongly pro-Right to Work jurisdictions in America.

“There’s no sensible reason why House members whose constituencies are overwhelmingly and passionately opposed to monopolistic unionism should hesitate to cosponsor H.R.2571.”

No One Should ‘Be Required To Join’ Any Private Group ‘Against His Will’

Of course, it isn’t just in a subset of congressional districts that public opinion strongly supports the Right to Work.

“Poll after poll shows that the

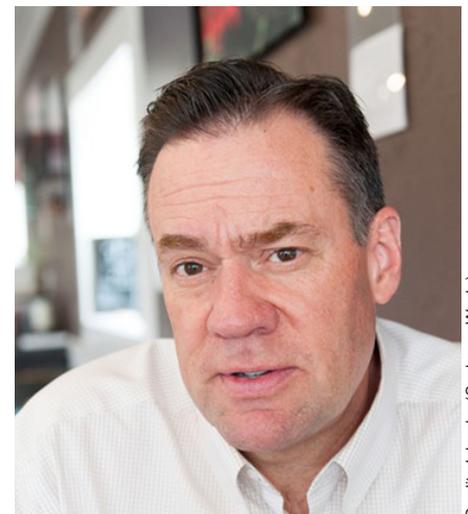
See Freedom page 2



Credit: WATE 6 (Knoxville, Tenn.)



Credit: Carol for Congress



Credit: Inlander (Spokane, Wash.)

Reps Tim Burchett (R-Tenn.), Carol Miller (R-W.Va., center), and Russ Fulcher (R-Idaho) all pledged to cosponsor national Right to Work legislation during their successful 2018 campaigns. But so far they haven’t done so. Many of the constituents who helped elect them want to know why. They can ask by calling them at 202-225-3121.

Freedom Is the Issue

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American people as a whole recognize that compulsory unionism is wrong,” said Mr. Mix.

To illustrate the point, he cited a nationwide scientific survey of adults aged 18 and over conducted a few years ago by Gallup, Inc.

The poll found that 82% of adults agree that “no American should be required to join any private organization, like a labor union, against his will.”

“Unfortunately,” observed Mr. Mix, “federal labor policy has long been in conflict with the common-sense views of the vast majority of ordinary citizens.

“For eight-and-a-half decades, it has explicitly authorized the termination of employees for refusal to join or pay dues or fees to a union, even if they don’t want it, and never asked for it.”

But all this would change if H.R.2571/S.525 became law.

This legislation would simply repeal the current provisions in the federal code that authorize and promote the termination of employees for refusal to pay money to an unwanted union.

Almost Certain to Foster Faster Growth in Jobs And Personal Income

In addition to enjoying the support of the vast majority of Americans, federal Right to Work legislation is almost certain

to foster faster job and income growth around the country, based on decades of experience at the state level.

One compelling recent addition to the mountain of evidence of Right to Work’s economic benefits is a March release from the U.S. Labor Department.

This report features new and revised data regarding the number of civilian household jobs (a broad measure that includes the self-employed and contractors as well as workers on employer payrolls) in each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia.

Ideal Is For All Candidates To Oppose Forced Unionism

It shows that the 22 states that already had Right to Work laws on the books prohibiting forced union dues and fees in 2009 enjoyed overall employment growth of 16.9% over the next decade.

That’s almost double the overall employment growth in the 23 states that have chosen, up to now, not to adopt Right to Work laws.

Among all 50 states, Idaho, Nevada, Utah, Texas and Florida respectively rank #1 through #5 for percentage growth in the number of people employed over the past 10 years.

All five are Right to Work states. Nine of the 10 highest-ranking states over the same period have Right to Work laws.

In a 2006 study, top U.S. labor economist Leo Troy, who has since passed away, observed:

“[R]ight-to-work laws are strongly correlated with faster growth in jobs and personal income.”

Today, the data continue to bear him out.

While the detrimental economic impact of compulsory unionism is felt most deeply in Big Labor-dominated states, employees nationwide lose economic opportunities as a consequence of the actions of Tax & Spend, regulation-happy U.S. congressmen and senators who are elected and reelected with the help of union officers.

Mr. Mix concluded:

“Americans find the very idea of compulsory unionism distasteful. And it has been a disaster in practice.

“The ideal, therefore, would be for all federal candidates to vow to oppose it in the future, regardless of what their records have been up to now.”

All major-party candidates, as well as key significant third-party and independent candidates, in every House and Senate race are asked to participate in the Right to Work Survey 2020 program.

And pro-Right to Work citizens in every House district and every state where there’s a Senate race are contacted and requested to help turn up the pressure on their candidates to respond to their surveys.

This Fall, Committee Will Let Citizens Know Where Their Candidates Stand

“Of course,” said Mr. Mix, “the Committee reserves the vast majority of its resources and mobilizes far more freedom-loving activists for House and Senate races that are at least potentially close and in which at least one candidate has taken a strong stand in favor of Right to Work.

“At the very least, Right to Work members and supporters want one candidate in each race this November to be a credible opponent of Big Labor’s monopoly privileges.

“In cases where only one of the two principal general-election candidates stands up for the Right to Work, the Committee’s job will be to let freedom-loving people know about the contrasting positions of their candidates on the forced-unionism issue.

“I’m confident that, if there is a choice between a strongly pro-Right to Work candidate and a forced-unionism candidate, the pro-Right to Work candidate is in a better position to gain support.” 



Credit: Gage Skidmore/Wikimedia Commons

Mark Mix: “I’m confident that, if there is a choice between a strongly pro-Right to Work candidate and a forced-unionism candidate, the pro-Right to Work candidate is in a better position to gain support.”

Right to Work Fueled Factory Jobs Comeback

Forced-Unionism Regime 'Incompatible With Modern Manufacturing'

With the media focusing now on the coronavirus pandemic and the brutal blow it has dealt to the U.S. economy, it is easy to forget about our country's recent economic successes.

One of these is the manufacturing comeback that gained a great deal of steam after Donald Trump moved into the White House in January 2017. U.S. manufacturing payrolls averaged 12.84 million in 2019, compared to 11.85 million in 2009, according to the U.S. Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

The surprising resilience of manufacturing employment is still good news for workers in the long run.

On average, according to the U.S. Commerce Department, annual compensation (including the cash value of health insurance, pension fund contributions, and other noncash benefits as well as wages and salaries) per American manufacturing employee is \$81,843.

That's roughly 60% higher than per employee compensation across the entire nonagricultural private sector.

Right to Work States' Aggregate Job Gain More Than Thrice as Great

But factory job growth is not spread out evenly across the country.

For many years, it has been concentrated in states where laws prohibiting the forced payment of dues or fees to a labor union have been adopted and taken effect.

As of today, 27 states have Right to Work laws on the books that protect employees from being forced to bankroll a union, on pain of termination.

Last year, 77% of the entire net U.S. increase for manufacturing employment occurred in these 27 states. And that is consistent with the long-term trend.

From 2009 to 2019, manufacturing employment expanded by 10.0% in the 22 states that had Right to Work laws in effect for the entire decade.

That's more than triple the aggregate 2.9% gain for the 23 states that were still forced-unionism at the end of the decade.

Factory Employees in Right to Work States Enjoy a Higher Standard of Living

By 2019, 53% of America's manufacturing jobs were located in Right

Biggest Factory-Job Losers, 2009-19

New York	-7.7%
Maryland	-6.9%
New Mexico	-5.3%
Rhode Island	-5.0%
New Jersey	-4.2%
Vermont	-3.8%
Connecticut	-3.8%

All seven are forced-dues.

Source: U.S. Department of Labor

Led by Right to Work states, U.S. factory payrolls rose by 1,000,000. But many forced-dues states suffered losses.

to Work states.

On average, these jobs paid better than their counterparts in compulsory-unionism states, when regional differences in the cost of living are taken into account.

Commerce data, adjusted for cost-of-living differences according to an index calculated by the Missouri Economic Research and Information Center, a state government agency, show that in 2018 the average annual compensation per Right to Work state manufacturing employee was roughly \$6,400 higher than the average for states that lack Right to Work protections.

"In the global marketplace that has emerged over roughly the past three decades," observed National Right to Work Committee Vice President Matthew Leen, "less and less assembly-line production of low-cost goods is going to occur in the

U.S. and other wealthy countries.

"That doesn't mean that, in the future, American manufacturing won't be able to sustain and create jobs that enable millions and millions of workers to provide well for themselves and their families.

"But these jobs require employees who are willing and able to develop their skills and show individual initiative.

"That's why a forced-unionism regime under which employees are required to submit to Big Labor in order to keep their jobs is simply incompatible with modern manufacturing.

"On the other hand, Right to Work laws foster an ideal environment for modern manufacturing by empowering employees who disagree with Big Labor obstructionism and 'hate-the-boss' class warfare to resist by quitting the union and withholding all financial support for it."

Right to Work States: The Future of High Paying Manufacturing Jobs

"This is a key reason why Right to Work states now represent the future for high-paying manufacturing jobs and businesses in the U.S.," Mr. Leen added.

"Our country's employees and businesses can overcome the harsh setback dealt us by the coronavirus, just as we have overcome even graver setbacks in the past.

"But we need to remove unnecessary obstacles to growth.

"No single piece of legislation in Congress now would do more to sustain and accelerate America's manufacturing comeback than the National Right to Work Act [H.R.2571/S.525], which would bar forced unionism in all 50 states." 

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First Amendment Attacked in Constitution State

Politicians Fear Public Servants Will Assert Free-Speech Rights

On March 10, just a few days before the Connecticut Capitol was shut down as part of the Constitution State's efforts to combat the coronavirus, members of the House Labor and Public Employees Committee in Hartford launched a new blitz against civil servants' freedom of speech.

In a little-publicized vote, the panel rubber-stamped H.B.5270, legislation that effectively requires government employers in Connecticut to siphon money out of employees' paychecks and funnel it to Big Labor without their consent.

It's now been nearly two years since the U.S. Supreme Court decided, in *Janus v. AFSCME Council 31*, that government employers across the country may not deduct union dues or fees from employees' paychecks unless the employees "clearly and affirmatively consent before any money is taken from them."

Hartford's Big Labor Politicians Regard *Janus* As a 'Problem'

But Hartford's Big Labor politicians, who have relied for decades on political support financed by forced union dues and fees, extracted from employee paychecks, to get elected and reelected, regard *Janus* as a "problem."

Union-label legislators openly admit that their intent in supporting H.B.5270 is to push back against *Janus*, a landmark legal victory for individual freedom that was argued and won by National Right to Work Legal Defense Foundation Staff Attorney Bill Messenger on behalf of Illinois civil servant Mark Janus.

For example, Senate President Pro-Tem Martin Looney (D-New Haven) recently commended H.B.5270 and its companion in his chamber, S.B.228, for furnishing a "creative solution" for politicians who fear large numbers of civil servants will assert their free-speech rights and stop bankrolling their campaigns.

Under H.B.5270 and S.B.228, public employers in Connecticut would effectively be required to violate civil servants' First Amendment rights.

National Right to Work Committee Vice President John Kalb explained:

"This power grab would legally prohibit employers from ceasing to deduct dues from employee paychecks simply because an employee personally informs them that he or she no longer belongs to

the union and does not wish to bankroll it.

"State and local government agencies would normally only be permitted to stop siphoning a portion of an independent-minded employee's pay into union coffers when the union says they may do so."

Union Bosses Would Effectively Be Authorized to Ignore Member Resignations

"And union chiefs," continued Mr. Kalb, "would be statutorily authorized, in effect, to ignore employee resignation notices. They would continue to toss in the trash all such notices unless they were submitted during a brief, Big Labor-determined 'window period.'"

Connecticut is just one of a number of longtime Big Labor stronghold states in which union bosses and their allied politicians are doing everything they can to prevent public servants who were union members against their will prior to *Janus* from exercising their now-recognized First Amendment rights.

Their machinations have undoubtedly prevented large numbers of civil servants from escaping Big Labor's clutches up to now, but even so data assembled in the *Union Membership and Earnings Database* by labor economists Barry Hirsch and David Macpherson show *Janus* has already had a significant financial impact.

The Hirsch-Macpherson data show that, by 2019, the number of coerced government union members/fee payers in the 21 states with wide-ranging public-sector compulsory unionism pre-*Janus* had fallen by almost half a million from its 2017 level.

When the membership drop is combined with nonmembers who can no longer be forced to pay union fees to keep their jobs, it amounts to a 9% decline post-*Janus*.

"It's not surprising that union-label politicians in Hartford are determined to pass legislation like H.B.5270/S.B.228 to minimize their Big Labor bankrollers' *Janus*-induced losses in membership and money," said Mr. Kalb.

"But the National Right to Work Committee and its Constitution State supporters will do everything we reasonably can to stop them.

"The Committee has already written every representative and senator in Connecticut urging them to oppose this 'assault' on the state's independent-minded public employees and taxpayers.

"The Connecticut Legislature may soon reconvene and schedule a floor vote on H.B.5270/S.B.228. I strongly urge freedom-loving citizens statewide to contact their politicians and urge them to vote 'No.'

"This is an uphill battle, but one Right to Work backers must fight." 📣



To protect the bosses of monopolistic government unions who have massively subsidized their political campaigns for years and years, Big Labor legislators in Connecticut are determined to slash the *Janus* decision's impact.

South Dakota Takes ‘a Good Early Step’

Lawmakers Ban Monopolistic Government Unionism in Universities

In November 2016, freedom-loving citizens in South Dakota, with both strategic and financial support from the National Right to Work Committee, resoundingly defeated a Big Labor scheme to destroy, at the ballot box, the Mount Rushmore State’s seven-decade-old ban on forced union dues and fees.

The overwhelming 80%-to-20% popular vote against the union bosses’ pro-compulsory unionism Initiated Measure 23 (or IM 23) sternly rebuked Organized Labor strategists, and evidently sent a clear message to state lawmakers in Pierre.

Since the beginning of the 2017 legislative session, state senators and representatives have been far more receptive to grassroots pleas that they roll back special privileges for union chiefs that have long been enshrined in the South Dakota Code.

Late this winter, pro-Right to Work legislators and Gov. Kristi Noem (R) granted freedom-loving citizens their latest victory by approving legislation that terminates union bosses’ monopoly-bargaining power over professors and other public university employees.

Camouflaged Bid to Foist Forced Dues on South Dakota Was Lopsidedly Rejected

Four years ago, top officials of Minneapolis-based Local 49 of the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) spearheaded the campaign for IM 23, a craftily worded assault on employees’ personal freedom.

Although it didn’t even include the words “Right to Work,” had it been adopted, IM 23 would have gutted South Dakota’s constitutional provision of that name by forcing union nonmembers to pay dues or fees for Big Labor monopoly bargaining they didn’t want, and never asked for.

The National Right to Work Committee led the charge to save South Dakota from compulsory unionism. Thanks to the generosity of members and supporters across the country, the Committee was able to contribute \$145,000 to grass-roots opponents of IM 23, more than twice as much as any other single contributor.

With the Committee’s help, the Aberdeen, S.D.-based group South Dakotans for Freedom and Jobs was able to run effective TV advertising and mail campaigns in a low-cost, low-population



Credit: James Nord/AP

Now that Gov. Noem has signed S.B.147 into law, union bosses will no longer be able to usurp the ability of hundreds of union nonmembers in higher education to speak for themselves on key matters concerning their jobs.

state.

Although Big Labor ultimately outpost Right to Work proponents by three-to-one (according to official records that, no doubt, greatly understate union-boss expenditures), efforts by the Committee and its allies sufficed to unmask IM 23. That’s why four times as many citizens voted against it as voted for it.

Workers Put ‘Under Powerful Compulsion to Join’ Unions By Monopoly Bargaining

“Saving South Dakota’s Right to Work law in 2016 was an important victory,” said Committee President Mark Mix, “but opponents of coercive unionism have much additional work to do in the Mount Rushmore State.

“Although the Right to Work remains protected, state law continues to force thousands and thousands of public servants to be subject to union monopoly bargaining on matters concerning their pay, benefits, and work rules in order to work for the taxpayer.

“As the late Thomas E. Harris, then a top AFL-CIO lawyer, acknowledged back in 1962, the very fact that a union is legally empowered to ‘negotiate the contract which regulates the incidents of [a worker’s] industrial life puts him under

powerful compulsion to join the union.’” (Emphasis added.)

Fortunately, since Big Labor’s IM 23 debacle, South Dakota legislative majorities have demonstrated a willingness at least to take modest steps to curtail government union bosses’ so-called “exclusive” bargaining privileges.

In 2017, they stripped union bosses of the power to negotiate contract terms for member and nonmember faculty alike at four technical institutes (soon to be transformed into colleges) run by school districts in Sioux City, Rapid City, Mitchell and Watertown.

And just this March, the Legislature adopted and Ms. Noem signed S.B.147, which shields faculty and other employees of state universities in Vermillion, Brookings, Madison, Aberdeen, Rapid, City and Spear Fish, as well as employees at branch campuses in Sioux Falls and Rapid City, from Big Labor domination.

On behalf of Committee members in South Dakota and nationwide, Mr. Mix had written to lawmakers and Ms. Noem to request their support for S.B.147. He commended the new law as a “good early step.”

“But it’s just the beginning,” he emphasized. “Right to Work supporters are pressing for the protection, in the near future, of all South Dakota public employees from union monopoly bargaining.” 📌

Joe Biden's Radical Anti-Right to Work Agenda

Labor-Policy 'Californization' Would Be Disastrous For Employees

Late this winter, and to the surprise of many seasoned political observers, former Vice President Joe Biden broke away from the unusually large 2020 pack of Democrat presidential hopefuls to become his party's presumptive nominee.

With an eye towards November, Mr. Biden is styling himself as more of a political "moderate" than Vermont U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders, the only other Democrat candidate to win substantial support in the presidential primaries this year.

But on a host of key policy issues, Mr. Biden is no moderate. Federal labor policy is a case in point.

Just for starters, Mr. Biden has vowed to push for adoption of the cynically mislabeled "Protecting the Right to Organize" Act, or PRO Act, (H.R.2474/S.1306), a package of new special privileges for union bosses that includes effective elimination of the 27 state Right to Work laws now on the books.

The PRO Act, which passed the Nancy Pelosi-controlled House of Representatives on February 6, is a veritable wish list of Big Labor priorities.

Each is designed to further empower union bosses to force their so-called "representation" on as many workers as possible, and then force the workers to pay dues for the privilege of keeping their jobs.

Mr. Biden Vows to Be Even More Pro-Union Coercion Than the PRO Act!

Mr. Biden's own campaign website admits that he not only "strongly supports" the legislation, but will even "go beyond the PRO Act" to further tilt the playing field in favor of Big Labor.

"The PRO Act represents the most brazen Big Labor power grab we've seen in decades," National Right to Work Committee Vice President Greg Mourad commented.

"After he championed so-called 'Card Check' as vice president, it's not surprising to see Joe Biden promising to continue his pattern of promoting Big Labor's interests at the expense of individual workers," Mourad added.

Mr. Biden has also doubled down on his support for one of Big Labor's newest pet projects: California's A.B.5, a massive expansion of forced unionism that seeks



Likely Democrat presidential nominee Joe Biden threatens the interests of individual workers, but promises to give union bosses more power. Right to Work supporters are warning the American people about it.

to rob independent contractors of their workplace freedoms.

A.B.5 reclassified over 1.5 million independent contractors, such as drivers for Uber and Lyft, as "employees" under California law.

As a result, these workers are now vulnerable to union monopoly bargaining, and being forced to pay dues, or be fired.

The results so far have been disastrous.

Independent workers are losing flexibility and freedom, and companies in California are predicting job loss on a massive scale.

Of course, none of this matters much to union bosses, who see independent workers as prime targets to grow their forced-dues ranks and fill union coffers.

Union-label majorities have already passed -- or are currently working to pass -- similar laws in Big Labor-dominated Illinois and New York.

Joe Biden wants to replicate California's results nationwide.

"Why should any Americans be denied the right to bargain for themselves, forced to accept Big Labor 'representation,' and pay dues or fees in order to make a living?" asked Mourad.

"These people are private citizens, conducting private business. It is wrong to pretend they are somebody's employees just so some union boss can collect tribute out of these private citizens' incomes."

Fortunately, the members of the National Right to Work Committee have a powerful tool at their disposal to put

pressure on politicians seeking office.

The Right to Work Candidate Survey program has already contacted every presidential candidate, asking each to go on the record in support of a national Right to Work law and other pro-employee policies.

Right to Work Federal Survey Program Holds Candidates Accountable

The fact is, even within a Democrat primary, full-throated hostility to Right to Work is not enough for candidates to gain much support.

For example, Elizabeth Warren returned her survey with a big "NO" written on it.

Tom Steyer even posted a video online of himself ripping up his survey, presumably in the hopes that his show of devotion to Big Labor would win the favor of primary voters. After these antics, both the Warren and Steyer campaigns quickly faded.

Mr. Mourad said that, as the year goes on, the Right to Work Committee will continue to push Mr. Biden, and every other candidate, to go on the record in support of Right to Work, regardless of where they have stood in the past. The program is well underway.

He concluded: "Every Right to Work supporter, and indeed all Americans, deserve to know where their candidates for office stand on worker freedom." 

Best Remedy Is Right to Work

Continued from page 8

spending \$6,200 at Palm Springs Steak & Chop Restaurant.”

A few months later, on July 14, 2015, he “approved a \$7,694 meal at the London Chop House in Detroit. Two months later, he approved a \$6,912 meal at the same restaurant.”

All of this was paid for by the very auto executives with whom Mr. Jewell and other UAW bosses were supposed to be driving hard bargains on behalf of rank-and-file autoworkers.

All the while, courtesy of the Obama DOL, crooked UAW and FCA officials were able to keep such illegal transactions secret.

Scheme to Embezzle Coerced Dues and Fees Succeeded, Year After Year

Of course, much of the ongoing UAW scandal, in connection with which additional indictments and guilty pleas are expected, involves theft of dues and fees that unionized autoworkers in states like Ohio and Missouri are still forced to fork over as a job condition.

For example, as this Newsletter went to press in early April, former UAW President Gary Jones was expected, within the next few weeks, to plead guilty to embezzling more than a million dollars in union treasury money and spending it on personal luxuries, as well as racketeering and income tax evasion.

National Right to Work Committee

President Mark Mix commented:

“Although federal authorities report that the racketeering scheme in which Gary Jones and his UAW cohorts conspired dates back at least to 2010, no charges were filed in connection with their and other related UAW-boss crimes until late summer 2017, several months after the Obama Administration ended.”

‘Greedy, Dishonest Union Bosses Now Have More to Worry About’

“Thanks to the Trump Administration’s substantially greater interest in auditing union books and deterring Big Labor financial subterfuges, greedy, dishonest union bosses now have more to worry about,” added Mr. Mix.

“Unfortunately, Mr. Trump’s first labor secretary, Alexander Acosta, dragged his feet about reinstating the union disclosure requirements quashed by the Obama team during his two-and-a-half years in office.

“It was only this March, roughly eight months after Mr. Acosta’s resignation, that the DOL rule restoring the requirement that union bosses file disclosure forms regarding the financial activities of trusts in which they have an interest was finally reinstated.

“This was a victory for Right to Work supporters and other concerned citizens who have been pushing for this policy change since before Donald Trump was inaugurated.

“But the enhancement of union reporting requirements is far from perfect.



Credit: Clarence Tabb Jr., Detroit News

For crooked union bosses like the UAW’s Norwood Jewell, secret financial transactions are a boon.

For example, it exempts, for no valid reason, unions with revenues of less than \$250,000 from having to report on any expenditures of the trusts they control.

“And now that the T-1 reinstatement is finally in effect, the cynical bosses of the AFL-CIO and other unions are virtually certain to try to block it in court.

“They have a good chance of keeping it legally tied up at least until next year, when, potentially, Labor Department appointees of newly-elected President Joe Biden could kill it.

“Of course, the best remedy for union corruption would be for Congress to repeal all the monopoly privileges union bosses currently enjoy under federal law, including forced union dues and fees and forced ‘representation.’

“But until the politicians in Washington, D.C., are ready for comprehensive reform, enhanced disclosure rules will be necessary and proper.” 

Consider Naming the National Right to Work Committee As a Beneficiary for a Retirement Account!

Continue your legacy of fighting compulsory unionism by naming the National Right to Work Committee as a beneficiary of your IRA, retirement account, or life insurance policy.

Your legacy of support will help keep the fight against compulsory unionism going for future generations.

As a non-profit, the Committee does not pay income taxes when it sells your assets, so 100% of your gift will go directly to the Committee’s legislative activities.

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.

For more information, see Other Ways to Give at <https://nrtwc.org/donate/other-ways-to-give/>. Or contact Matthew Leen, Vice President of Strategic Programs, at 703-321-9820 or email at mml@nrtw.org.

Crimes Could Have Been Discovered Years Earlier

Obama Labor Bureaucrats Helped UAW Kingpins Conceal Wrongdoing

The ever-expanding United Auto Workers (UAW/AFL-CIO) union scandal, in connection with which 13 people had already pleaded guilty to embezzlement and other federal offenses by early April, illustrates why Right to Work supporters have fought for years for better federal oversight of union financial schemes.

One obvious example is the guilty plea entered by former UAW Vice President Norwood Jewell in April 2019.

As Mr. Jewell's plea agreement acknowledged, over the years, executives of Fiat/Chrysler Automobiles (FCA) again and again used the National Training Center (NTC) jointly managed by the firm and the union for illicit purposes.

Auto Executives Used Trust to Funnel Cash Gifts to Head Union Negotiator

Specifically, FCA executives used the NTC to furnish Mr. Jewell with lavish gifts at the same time he was head union negotiator of the workplace contract governing FCA's front-line employees across the U.S.

Auto executives who sat across the table from Mr. Jewell paid for these gifts with FCA money funneled through the NTC, which, as a consequence of a 2010 Obama Administration rollback of federal oversight of union finances, did not have

to disclose to the U.S. Labor Department how it spent its funds!

A decade ago, Labor Department (DOL) Secretary Hilda Solis and other agency bureaucrats installed by then-President Barack Obama brushed aside the public pleas of National Right to Work leaders and members who urged them not to kowtow to union kingpins by rolling back federal oversight of Organized Labor.

Ms. Solis and her cohorts unceremoniously scrapped a number of enhancements of union disclosure requirements implemented during the first decade of the millennium in response to revelations of self-dealing by top union bosses like plumbers kingpin Martin Maddaloni and laborers bigwig Arthur Coia.

One of the principal targets for destruction was the Form T-1.

Mixing Coercive Power With Less Accountability Was A Recipe For Corruption

Until it was scuttled, the T-1 blocked officers of unions with \$250,000 or more in annual revenue from using trusts supposedly created to benefit rank-and-file members to circumvent the federal reporting requirements for such unions that Congress instituted in the 1959 Landrum-Griffin Act.

Right to Work activists and their allies warned that Obama appointees' loosening of union financial-disclosure rules would result in even more of the corruption that is always the byproduct of labor laws that corral workers into unions.

Oversight Budget Fell By 29% in Real Terms Even As Federal Spending Soared

Besides making it far easier for union bosses to conceal expenditures that they didn't want rank-and-file members and forced-fee paying nonmembers to know about, Obama DOL appointees slashed the budget for the only division of their agency that is charged with overseeing union activities.

In Fiscal Year 2007, near the end of the George W. Bush Administration, the annual budget of the DOL's Office of Labor-Management Standards (OLMS) was \$48 million.

By FY 2017, Ms. Solis and Tom Perez, whom Mr. Obama selected to replace Ms. Solis as labor secretary when she left the administration in 2013, had successfully pressed Congress to cut the budget of this office, which only spends roughly 0.1% of the DOL's total allocation, by 29% in real terms.

All this happened while the overall federal budget grew far faster than the rate of inflation.

(In February 2017, Democrat Party operatives selected Mr. Perez to be chairman of the Democratic National Committee. He continues to head the DNC today.)

As current U.S. Labor Secretary Eugene Scalia, appointed by President Donald Trump last year, acknowledges, the disappearance of the T-1 made it far easier for UAW bosses like Norwood Jewell to live the high life using NTC money that was supposed to be spent assisting front-line workers without fear of getting caught.

For example, on January 9, 2015, Mr. Jewell "spent \$7,569 on dinner at LG's Prime Steakhouse in Palm Springs, Calif."

Over the course of that same month, he "spent \$1,267 at Indian Canyons Gold Resort" in Palm Springs. On January 18, 2015, he "approved a \$4,587 meal" at LG's. On January 24, 2015, Mr. Jewell "approved [another] UAW official



Obama appointees like Hilda Solis (inset) and Tom Perez were determined to avoid "overburdening" union bosses with disclosure requirements and audits. Predictably, labor-law violations, fraud and embezzlement went undetected.

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