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Union-Label Politicians Will Be Held Accountable *Committee Program to Highlight Compulsory-Dues Issue in Key Races*

Even as Big Labor keeps intensifying its forced union dues-funded campaign to push President Biden-backed schemes expanding union bosses' monopoly privileges through Congress, dozens of anti-Right to Work Beltway politicians are facing potentially difficult campaigns to remain in office this fall.

In Congress's upper chamber, Sens. Raphael Warnock (D-Ga.), Maggie Hassan (D-N.H.), Mark Kelly (D-Ariz.), and Catherine Cortez Masto (D-Nev.) are probably the most vulnerable pro-forced unionism incumbents running to keep their seats in November.

Sens. Warnock, Kelly, and Cortez Masto represent states with longstanding and highly popular Right to Work laws.

And Sen. Hassan represents a state where the Right to Work movement has recently been gaining strength and forced union dues and fees could potentially be banned as soon as 2023.

Right to Work Reversed In Battleground States

"The Right to Work principle is overwhelmingly popular with the people of Georgia, New Hampshire, Arizona and Nevada," said National Right to Work Committee Vice President Greg Mourad.

"But Sens. Warnock, Hassan, Kelly and Cortez Masto have time and again thumbed their noses at the vast majority of their constituents.

"They have regularly sided with union bosses who demanded that the federal government make it even easier for them to corral employees into unions and extract forced financial support from them."

Three egregious examples occurred just last summer, when President Joe Biden's nominations of David Prouty and Gwynne Wilcox to the National Labor



Credit: James Langer/Daily Oklahoman

Right to Work supporters believe union membership should be a matter of personal choice. But Big Labor politicians want even to block employees from exercising their long-standing statutory right to vote out an unwanted union.

Relations Board and Jennifer Abruzzo as NLRB general counsel came to the Senate floor.

Mr. Prouty was until recently the top lawyer for Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 32-BJ, which has a long history of corruption and political activism in the Big Apple.

Ms. Wilcox is a seasoned radical union lawyer who not long ago was associate general counsel for another large, New York City-based SEIU subsidiary, Local 1199. Local 1199 officers and militants have been implicated in multiple alleged acts of sabotage in nursing home facilities.

Ms. Abruzzo is a tunnel-visioned proponent of monopolistic unionism who was for years a top lawyer for the militant Communications Workers of America union.

Biden Appointees Expected To Hinder Workers From Ousting Unwanted Unions

All three nominees won Senate confirmation only by razor-thin margins, and would not have been approved

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Survey 2022 Commencing

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without the votes of Mr. Warnock, Ms. Hassan, Mr. Kelly, and Ms. Cortez Masto.

“Powerful union bosses are now counting on the Biden NLRB to reverse rapidly several precedents and rule changes made by Trump appointees to ensure that workers who don’t want a union can actually exercise limited, but important, rights they are supposed to enjoy under federal labor statutes,” said Mr. Mourad.

“For example, a 2020 Trump board rule change, made after receiving ample input from the National Right to Work Legal Defense Foundation, sharply limited union lawyers’ ability to delay worker votes to oust unwanted unions by making so-called ‘blocking charges.’

“But now that the Senate has confirmed David Prouty and Gwynne Wilcox to the NLRB, Big Labor has every reason to expect they will do everything they can to hinder workers from exercising their statutory right to vote to be union-free.

“Meanwhile, Ms. Abruzzo is openly

planning to impose stiff penalties on employers simply because they insist their employees get a chance to vote in a secret-ballot election before they are subjected to union monopoly control.”

Committee’s Basic Goal Is to Revoke Longstanding Big Labor Special Privileges

Right to Work Committee legislative staff and Right to Work attorneys will be fighting this year to limit the damage wrought to employee freedom of choice by President Biden’s NLRB appointees.

But the Right to Work movement’s basic goals are far more ambitious. First among them is repeal of the federal labor-law provisions that authorize and promote forced union dues and fees.

“Right to Work members and supporters want a Congress with the fortitude to take away the forced-unionism privileges that union bosses have wielded for decades,” explained Mr. Mourad.

“The Committee’s Survey 2022 is critical for this long-term objective.”

As many Committee members know, the federal survey asks candidates to commit themselves to oppose forced unionism and support national Right to Work legislation if elected.

Senate and House candidates are given several chances to return their surveys and answer 100% in favor of Right to Work.

And millions of grassroots Right to Work supporters are mobilized to lobby their candidates to respond to their surveys.

Big Labor Candidates Can Pledge to Oppose Forced Dues, Or Face Potential Fallout

“All major-party candidates as well as significant third-party and independent candidates in every U.S. Senate and House race are asked to participate in the Right to Work survey program,” said Mr. Mourad.

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

“But the Committee pours the vast majority of its survey resources into and mobilizes far more freedom-loving activists for Senate and House races in which at least one candidate has taken a strong stand for Right to Work.

“We can’t be sure at this time, but, contingent on what happens over the next few months, the Committee survey program may be targeting Senate races in Florida, Missouri, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, along with the races in Georgia, New Hampshire, Arizona and Nevada.”

The federal Survey 2022 will be giving union-label politicians like Raphael Warnock, Maggie Hassan, Mark Kelly, and Catherine Cortez Masto a choice: pledge to change course and support Right to Work in the future, or face the potential political fallout.

Mr. Mourad concluded:

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

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

“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: Warnock for Senate/Wikimedia Commons



Credit: Edward Kimmel/Wikimedia Commons



Credit: Gage Skidmore/Wikimedia Commons



Credit: Gage Skidmore/Wikimedia Commons

By repeatedly voting to confirm Joe Biden’s extremist NLRB nominees, Sens. Raphael Warnock, Maggie Hassan, Mark Kelly, and Catherine Cortez Masto (pictured clockwise from the upper left) have exposed themselves as Big Labor puppets.

Nearly a 2:1 Advantage in Employment Growth

From 2010-20, Right to Work Private-Sector Jobs Soared by 18%

As the nation strives to get back to normal after the steep COVID-19 recession, it is obvious some states have much further to go than others.

Recently updated data from the U.S. Departments of Commerce (DOC) and Labor (DOL) show Right to Work states outpaced forced-dues states in job growth by nearly 2:1 over the past decade -- and are now poised to get back much sooner to their pre-pandemic job numbers than forced-dues states.

Under the current trend, Right to Work states will surge much further ahead over the next decade.

Jobs in Right to Work States Are Higher Paying As Well as More Plentiful

In September, the DOC released for the first time annual employment numbers for 2020 in the 50 states as well as revised data for earlier years.

The updated DOC data show that, from 2010-20, the 22 states that had Right to Work laws on the books for the entire decade saw an 18.0% increase in their aggregate private-sector employment.

Meanwhile, private-sector employment in the 23 states that are still forced-dues today grew by just 9.7%, or barely more than half as much.

The six top-ranking states over the decade, enjoying employment gains of between 20.8% and 31.3%, are all Right to Work. But none of the four states with negative job growth over the decade has a longstanding Right to Work law, and three are still forced-unionism today.

Jobs in Right to Work states are typically high-quality. National Institute

Biggest Private-Sector Job Gainers, 2010-20

Utah	31.3%
Florida	27.6%
Idaho	24.8%
Arizona	23.7%
Texas	23.6%
Georgia	20.8%

All six are Right To Work.

Source: U.S. Department of Commerce

Right to Work states have long outpaced forced-dues states in job growth. And their advantage is now widening.

for Labor Relations Research analyses of DOC data show real per-employee compensation in Right to Work states is consistently higher than in forced-dues states.

Employment in Forced-Dues States Still 4.3% Below Pre-COVID-19 Level

After adjusting for regional cost of living differences with indices calculated by the Missouri Economic Research and Information Center (MERIC), a state government agency, in 2020 private-sector employees earned over \$800 more compensation apiece in Right to Work states than in forced-dues states.

National Right to Work Committee Vice President Matthew Leen noted that the Right to Work employment advantage has been especially wide since COVID-19 emerged.

“The DOL’s household survey shows that, as of last October, total employment in forced-dues states was still 4.3% below its pre-COVID-19 level in February 2020,” said Mr. Leen.

“The distance the 27 current Right to Work states had to go to get back to their pre-COVID-19 level was roughly one-third as great. Obviously, their complete jobs recovery will come far sooner than in forced-dues states as a group.

“The latest government data simply confirm what Right to Work supporters have been saying for many years: In states where workers are forced to pay tribute to union bosses as a condition of employment, Big Labor’s inordinate economic power results in slower job growth when times are good and greater job destruction when recession strikes.

“The detrimental impact of Big Labor is clear.

“The wasteful work rules, job featherbedding, and union-label ‘hate the boss’ propaganda foisted on employees without Right to Work protections are a recipe for long-term economic disaster.

“American workers are the most resilient in the world, and I have no doubt our country will come roaring back from the recession in time. Unfortunately, in forced-dues states the ‘roar’ may be more of a whisper.

“Today nearly half of all America’s front-line, private-sector employees are potentially at risk of being fired for refusal to bankroll a union they don’t want, and never asked for. Unless Right to Work protections are extended to these employees, they will continue to be left behind as their counterparts in Right to Work states enjoy the full benefits of a strong and recovering economy.

“This is just one of several reasons why every state should be a Right to Work state. Fortunately, because federal labor law is the source of private-sector forced union dues and fees, Congress has the authority as well as the responsibility to fix the problem.

“To ensure the post-COVID-19 recovery flourishes for employees, Congress should pass the National Right to Work Act [H.R.1275/S.406] without further delay.” 

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Big Labor Greed Worsens Supply-Chain Crisis

Union Legal Warfare Keeps State-of-the-Art Terminal Nearly Idle

With his own approval ratings and the political prospects of his fellow Beltway Democrat politicians both sinking like a rock, Big Labor President Joe Biden is desperate to appear to be addressing the grave flaws in America's supply chain.

As the U.S. and world economies try to rebound from the recent COVID-19 recession, these long-standing problems are now making it extraordinarily time-consuming and expensive for America's businesses to get merchandise to their international customers and the tools they need to keep production going.

Chronic congestion and soaring freight costs fueled 8.6% wholesale price inflation for the year ending in October, the highest rate over a 12-month period in more than a decade, and are causing shortages of key consumer items like clothes, auto parts and toys.

For months, the Biden Administration has been purporting to do everything it could to fix the supply chain, but as this Newsletter goes to press, fresh reports keep coming out of ports that are unable to handle the influx of trucks making pick-ups and deliveries, even though the drivers have appointment times.

Biden NLRB General Counsel Could Help Unclog U.S. Ports -- if She Wanted to

"The fact is, President Biden and his appointees aren't really serious about alleviating the supply-chain crisis or about advancing long-term solutions," said National Right to Work Committee President Mark Mix.

"If they were, Jennifer Abruzzo -- Mr. Biden's handpicked general counsel of the National Labor Relations Board [NLRB] -- would already have sought an injunction to stop International Longshoremen's Association [ILA] union bosses from pursuing their legal war against the Hugh K. Leatherman Terminal."

Located at the Port of Charleston in Right to Work South Carolina, this billion-dollar, state-of-the-art terminal welcomed its first vessel in April. Leatherman is the first and only container terminal to open in the U.S. since 2009, and it is engineered to handle efficiently the biggest ships calling on East Coast ports.

"Leatherman began operating at a time when the U.S. and world economies desperately needed it," noted Mr. Mix.



Credit: U.S. Senator/ Wikimedia Commons

Amidst a global supply-chain crisis, President Joe Biden's longshore union allies have virtually shut down South Carolina's new, billion-dollar Hugh K. Leatherman Terminal. Is the Biden team okay with that?

"Were it now operating at full capacity, Leatherman would be furnishing many ILA members with high-paying jobs moving containers around the yards as well as alleviating our nation's supply chain woes."

Unfortunately, despite record international cargo traffic, only a small fraction of the 35,000 containers a month that could go through Leatherman are actually doing so. As of November 24, the South Carolina Ports vessel schedule showed that only *one ship* was expected to call at the terminal over the next *15 days*.

Big Labor Power Grab Constitutes 'Unlawful, Secondary Activity'

Most carriers are refusing to relocate services to Leatherman because they know that, if they do, ILA bosses will be poised to sue them for hundreds of millions of dollars for supposedly violating the union's contract with them.

Union lawyers claim their contract prohibits carriers from loading and unloading shipments at Leatherman because at this terminal union-free state employees operate ship-to-shore cranes and other heavy-lift equipment, even as other front-line jobs are performed by workers who are subject to ILA control.

They insist ILA bosses have the right to collect massive damages from carriers for docking at Leatherman even though the ILA hierarchy has for years permitted

carriers to dock at other terminals in South Carolina, North Carolina and Georgia that use the same "hybrid" work model.

In September, NLRB Administrative Law Judge Andrew Gollin rejected ILA lawyers' claims, and branded the Leatherman power grab as a bid to "acquire work not traditionally performed by unit employees," which constitutes "unlawful, secondary activity."

Apparently believing they have the White House in their pocket, ILA chieftains have not been deterred by this stern legal rebuff. They are reportedly counting on the Biden NLRB to force South Carolina officials to cede control of all Leatherman port jobs to Big Labor.

But Mr. Mix is fighting back on behalf of the Committee's 2.8 million members and other concerned citizens.

On November 16, he met with pro-Right to Work members of South Carolina's congressional delegation to discuss how they could turn up the heat on the Biden Administration to end the illegal Leatherman boycott.

Mr. Mix explained: "Under Section 10(1) of the federal Labor-Management Relations Act, General Counsel Abruzzo is required to investigate and, if appropriate, seek court injunctions to stop illegal secondary boycotts.

"If she doesn't take such actions in the Leatherman matter without further delay, political favoritism towards Big Labor will be the only plausible reason why she doesn't." 

Right to Work Committee Honors Terry Mast

Donor's Bequest Will Keep Advancing Fight Against Forced Unionism

Terry Mast was a longtime friend of the national Right to Work movement.

In fact, as a young adult he worked as a staff attorney for the National Right to Work Legal Defense Foundation, providing free legal aid to workers whose personal freedom had been trampled by compulsory unionism.

Terry continued to focus on employee rights when he led legal efforts in the office of the New Mexico attorney general to protect public servants from forced unionization.

Terry subsequently worked for California Assemblyman (now Congressman) Tom McClintock as a labor committee consultant in Sacramento.

He came to this position highly recommended by those who knew him at Right to Work.

In later years, Terry worked as a consultant for Golden State Sen. Maurice Johannessen and, finally, at the California Assembly Republican Caucus.

Once retired, Terry was elected to the Foundation Board of Trustees.

A Football Fan, a Voracious Reader, and a Defender Of Conservative Principles

Born and raised in the Great Lakes State, Terry was an ardent lifelong fan of the University of Michigan's football team, the Wolverines.

He would readily discuss college football with anyone who was interested.

His office was appointed with an assortment of UM décor, and he was frequently seen wearing a UM shirt or hat.



Even in his passing, Terry Mast continues to make a difference in the fight against Big Labor abuses.

He was a strong supporter of the Second Amendment and a lifetime National Rifle Association member.

He was a staunch Republican who dedicated his life to promoting conservative principles while serving as an officer of the Sacramento County Republican Party for 20 years.

And as a voracious reader since his youth, he collected thousands of books on a wide range of topics.

During his tenures as a Foundation attorney and as a labor committee consultant in Sacramento, Terry developed

a strong dislike for the corruption inherent in government unions.

When Terry sadly passed away last year after a short battle with pancreatic cancer, he left a sizeable bequest to the State Employee Rights Campaign Committee (SERCC).

Mark Mix: 'Our Country Desperately Needs More People Like Terry'

SERCC, the National Right to Work Committee's political action arm, works to ensure that pro-Right to Work state and local candidates can beat Big Labor-backed politicians.

It has been instrumental in the passage of many state Right to Work laws, most recently in Indiana, Wisconsin, Kentucky, West Virginia, and Terry's beloved home state of Michigan.

Thanks in part to Terry's generous bequest, SERCC will be busy again this year helping pro-Right to Work candidates defeat Big Labor's multimillion-dollar, forced-dues political juggernaut in state after state.

Several Right to Work associates, including Committee President Mark Mix, had the pleasure of getting to know Terry personally over the years.

"Terry's life was dedicated to the cause of personal liberty," said Mr. Mix.

"Even in his passing, he continues to make a difference in the fight against Big Labor's corruption and bullying. Our country desperately needs more people like Terry.

"He will be greatly missed." 🇺🇸

Consider the National Right to Work Committee in your Will or Estate Plan

Recent changes in the tax laws provide more freedom as you decide how your assets and property are ultimately used. We have a number of options for you to review with ways you can continue your legacy in the fight to end forced unionism.

- Name the National Right to Work Committee as a beneficiary of your IRA, retirement account, or life insurance policy.
- Add the National Right to Work Committee as a beneficiary in your will.

- Make a difference in the fight to end compulsory unionism by contributing appreciated stock.

Whatever you decide, your last will and testament is the ultimate statement of what matters most to you -- the people you love and the values and principles you hold dear.

That is why many freedom-loving Americans choose to include the National Right to Work Committee in their estate planning.

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

School Union Monopolies Smother Parents' Voices

Big Labor Gets Veto Over Education Policy; Parents Don't

Why was former Democrat Gov. Terry McAuliffe unexpectedly defeated by GOP businessman Glenn Youngkin in last fall's contest to be the next chief executive of Virginia, a state that the Biden-Harris ticket had carried by 10 percentage points in 2020?

Several factors undoubtedly contributed to Mr. McAuliffe's loss by a 50.6% to 48.6% margin.

For example, his pledge to sign repeal of Virginia's three quarters-of-a-century-old Right to Work law, even though a 2020 poll showed the Old Dominion's voters favor keeping it on the books by more than a two-to-one margin, undoubtedly hurt him.

And political observers widely agree that mounting voter concerns about education policy were very important in determining the race's outcome.

Parents of Schoolchildren Perceived Terry McAuliffe Wasn't on Their Side

Mr. McAuliffe's single greatest liability with regard to the education issue was clearly voters' perception that, in all disputes pitting concerned parents and their kids against union bosses and union boss-backed school officials, he would invariably side with Big Labor and its friends.

Many education-focused voters were especially disturbed by how Mr. McAuliffe and other union-label Virginia Democrat politicians had recently colluded with teacher union bosses as they fought tooth and nail to block the reopening of schools shuttered at the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020.

Virginia public schools offered fewer days of in-person learning than their counterparts in 43 other states during the 2020-21 academic year.

By then, compelling scientific evidence was already available showing COVID-19 posed less risk to kids' health than does the seasonal flu and that schools are not significant vectors of COVID-19 transmission.

Standardized test scores in Virginia fell substantially during the school shutdowns that were unnecessarily prolonged by teacher union bosses and politicians aligned with them.

The nails in the McAuliffe coffin may well have been his politically tone-deaf admission at the campaign's final debate:



Credit: Brinacor/Wikimedia Commons

For well over a year, union bosses in Virginia and the rest of the U.S. fought bitterly to block the reopening of schools shuttered at the outset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020.

"I don't believe parents should be telling schools what they should teach" and his invitation to teacher union bigwig Randi Weingarten to speak on his behalf at an election eve rally.

The debate "gaffe" accurately reflected the candidate's platform.

Under Monopoly Bargaining, Policy Changes Can't Happen Over Big Labor Opposition

Had Mr. McAuliffe been elected governor, he was openly prepared to work hand-in-hand with union-label legislators in Richmond to grant parents of Virginia's K-12-aged children even less say over public schools than they currently have.

Months before Election Day, McAuliffe-bankrolling government union boss Lee Saunders was making his intentions clear. If things turned out as he planned on November 2, in 2022 he and his cohorts would ram through Richmond a rewrite of state labor law, making every teacher and other public-sector employee subject to union monopoly bargaining.

Mr. McAuliffe was fully on board. In a videotaped April interview, he pledged he would "get collective [monopoly] bargaining done" as governor.

By empowering union bosses to speak for all front-line educators -- and

to codetermine with education officials who are accountable to voters how K-12 schools compensate and manage their employees -- mandatory monopoly-bargaining laws smother the voices of parents and other ordinary citizens.

In practice, they mean changes in education policy can't happen over union officials' opposition.

But they can and do happen without the consent of most parents.

National Right to Work Committee President Mark Mix commented:

"Putting monopoly bargaining power over teacher pay, benefits, and work rules in the hands of union officials results in a variety of ills that challenge public education."

'One-Size-Fits-All' Pay Scales Hurt Teachers With Rare Skills, Low Seniority

"One especially egregious example," added Mr. Mix, "is union bosses' exercise of their monopoly-bargaining power to perpetuate 'single salary' schedules that hurt many teachers economically and diminish schools' effectiveness."

"Under such rigid, 'one-size-fits-all' pay scales, teachers qualified for hard-

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Teachers, Taxpayers Get Hurt

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to-fill positions in subject areas such as calculus, chemistry, and English as a second language endure below-market pay.

“Many educators with less esoteric specialties who are exceptionally good at their jobs and/or low-seniority suffer the same fate.

“Other harmful policies routinely advanced by government union monopolists at the bargaining table include rules that make it extremely difficult to fire derelict teachers.

“In some instances, school districts impaired by union monopoly bargaining have had to warehouse hundreds of teachers who could not be trusted in the classroom.”

Monopolistic Unions Are Negatively Related to Student Performance

Given the fact that union bosses regularly strive to obstruct school administrators from making sensible management decisions, it is not surprising that rigorous data analyses show that policies granting Big Labor monopoly-bargaining power over educators have a negative impact on school performance.

For example, a 2018 paper coauthored by University of Texas (UT) economist Stan Liebowitz and UT research fellow Matthew Kelly found that union legal privileges, political clout, and other closely related factors have “a substantial and statistically negative relationship with

student achievement.”

Moreover, Dr. Leibowitz and Mr. Kelly found that more extensive monopoly privileges and greater political power for teacher union bosses raise taxpayer expenditures on K-12 schools even as they lower educational outcomes.

“The spread of public-sector monopoly-bargaining laws to well over 30 states since the first such statute was adopted in 1959 is a major problem for American schoolchildren, parents and taxpayers,” said Mr. Mix.

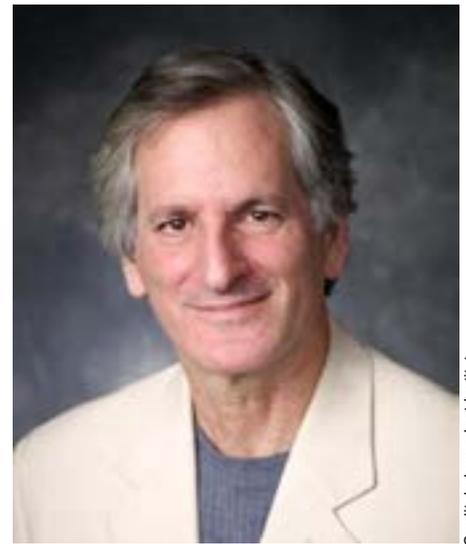
“Unfortunately, so far, rolling back government union bosses’ special privileges has been a slow and arduous task.”

Arkansas Recently Banned Monopolistic Unions in Schools, Colleges, Courts

Since 2011, several states, including Wisconsin, Indiana, Tennessee and Iowa, have adopted laws rolling back government union bosses’ monopoly-bargaining privileges, without completely eliminating them.

The National Right to Work’s position has consistently been that barring all forms of government-sector bargaining is the ideal means to level the playing field for taxpayers and independent-minded employees.

But the Committee has again and again helped mobilize public support for successful efforts to curtail the scope of Big Labor monopoly privileges through its mail, email, and telecommunications activities.



Credit: Independent Institute

University of Texas economist Stan Liebowitz: Monopoly bargaining makes schools less effective and more costly.

And just last year, the Committee lent its strong support to Arkansas’s S.B.341, a measure ultimately signed by Gov. Asa Hutchinson (R) that prohibits Big Labor from seizing monopoly-bargaining control of public servants who work at schools, colleges, many state agencies, and courts.

Big Labor Shouldn’t Be Rewarded For Shuttered Schools

And currently, said Mr. Mix, the Committee’s legislative staff sees an opportunity to reinstate the ban on government-sector monopoly bargaining that was on the books in Virginia for many years until union-label politicians’ revocation of it took effect in 2021.

“Though incoming Gov. Glenn Youngkin has pledged to support repeal of union bosses’ privilege to be designated as the ‘exclusive’ voice on workplace matters for teachers and other civil servants, getting legislation that accomplishes this goal to his desk will be an uphill battle,” Mr. Mix acknowledged.

“But this is also a battle Right to Work members and other concerned citizens must fight.

“The fact is, if Virginia delegates and senators choose to allow the special-interest 2020 law empowering government union bosses to reign supreme over K-12 teachers and other civil servants to remain on the books, they will be rewarding Big Labor for shuttered schools and a host of other abuses.

“With every seat in the state House of Delegates and Senate up for grabs again in 2023, is this something Richmond politicians really want to do?” 🇺🇸



Right to Work President Mark Mix: Granting monopoly bargaining power over teacher pay, benefits, and work rules to union officials results in a variety of ills that challenge public education.

Committee Members Beat Big Labor in Virginia

Union Bosses Saw Opportunity to Kill a State Right to Work Law

Had union-label Democrat nominee Terry McAuliffe won the Virginia gubernatorial race while Big Labor politicians in his party kept control over the state House of Delegates on November 2, the Old Dominion's popular, 75-year-old Right to Work law could have been in jeopardy.

In April, Mr. McAuliffe had admitted in a videotaped interview that he would sign legislation repealing Right to Work and permitting forced union dues and fees as a job condition if given the opportunity.

And in September, Del. Luke Torian (D-Prince William), the powerful chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, announced in a constituent mailing that, if his party retained control of the legislative agenda in 2022, it would aggressively attempt to destroy Right to Work and reinstate forced unionism in Virginia.

Democrat Sellout to Union Bosses Put to Abrupt Stop After Years of Preparation

As Virginia's governor from 2014-18, Mr. McAuliffe was constrained by strong pro-Right to Work majorities in the General Assembly. He had little incentive then to declare war on the Commonwealth's cherished tradition of worker freedom.

But after union-label Democrat politicians took over the General Assembly with ample Big Labor financial and manpower support in November 2019, the claws came out.

In 2020, union boss-owned legislators in Richmond strove to repeal Right to Work and impose mandatory public-sector union bargaining.

Those efforts were thwarted due to fierce public opposition, largely mobilized by the National Right to Work Committee.

But union lobbyists pushed through several other important items on their legislative wish list, including repeal of the Old Dominion's long-standing ban on government-sector union monopoly bargaining.

In 2021, union bosses smelled blood in the water.

By sweeping the November elections, they anticipated they would be ready this winter to repeal Right to Work and make public-sector monopoly bargaining mandatory for all levels of government in



Credit: Glenn Youngkin/Wikimedia Commons

After pledging 100% support for Right to Work and 100% opposition to government-sector union monopoly bargaining, Glenn Youngkin captured the Virginia governorship.

the Old Dominion, entrenching themselves as the most powerful lobby in Richmond.

Union kingpins showered Mr. McAuliffe and other Virginia Democrat politicians with millions of dollars in campaign largesse.

Over the course of this last year, the former governor raised approximately \$7.5 million in cash alone from Big Labor, while candidates for the rest of the Democratic ticket and the state Democratic Party raised an additional \$4.7 million in cash from the union political machine.

This over \$12 million "investment" into Virginia by Big Labor was supplemented by millions and millions of dollars in unreported spending on union phone banks, get-out-the-vote drives, campaign staff, and much more.

Pro-Right to Work Forces Successfully Pushed Back

It all came to naught. Republican Glenn Youngkin, who regularly touted his unabashed support for Right to Work on the campaign trail, won the governorship. Right to Work supporters also captured Virginia's two other statewide elected offices.

Meanwhile, union boss-allied House Speaker Eileen Filler-Corn's (Fairfax) Democrat caucus apparently shrank from 55 to 48 seats in the 100-member chamber, putting her in the minority.

Big Labor's debacle was in part due to the Committee's investment in its voter education and mobilization program.

Over the course of the campaign, the Committee sent over 750,000

mail communications across the Commonwealth to educate voters on where candidates stood with respect to freedom and coercion in the workplace.

Of these, roughly 70,000 specifically targeted 40 competitive House of Delegates races that would determine control of that chamber.

As these mailings were sent out, thousands of Committee members made independent efforts to elect freedom-supporting candidates across Virginia.

Two races, in which pro-Right to Work candidates Kim Taylor and Tara Durant respectively unseated egregiously anti-freedom incumbents Lashrese Aird (D-Petersburg) and Joshua Cole (D-Fredericksburg), stood out. Ms. Aird and Mr. Cole have both beaten the drum for Right to Work repeal for years.

The Petersburg and Fredericksburg results, plus those in several other districts, yielded a pro-Right to Work House majority.

With opponents of forced unionism taking over all state executive offices and the House leadership, the main obstacle now to rolling back Big Labor's 2020 power plays is the Senate, where no seats were up for grabs last November.

"With union-label politician Richard Saslaw [D-Fairfax] almost certainly staying on as Senate majority leader, it won't be easy for Virginia to wash its hands of 2020's legislative follies," admitted Right to Work Committee Vice President John Kalb.

"But thanks partly to the success of the Committee's 2021 state survey program, freedom-loving Virginians have at least a fighting chance this year." 🇺🇸