



# NATIONAL RIGHT TO WORK NEWSLETTER

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## Right to Work at Issue in Key Senate Races *Survey Results in, Committee Members Put Heat on the Candidates*



CREDIT TO: WIN MCNAMEE/GETTY IMAGES

**Thanks to the National Right to Work Committee's Survey 2014 program, requests to stop supporting compulsory**

With the results of the National Right to Work Committee's federal Survey 2014 now in, Committee members from coast to coast keep turning up the heat on U.S. Senate and House candidates to publicly pledge 100% support for the Right to Work.

By the time they have the opportunity to read this month's Newsletter, the vast majority of Committee members and supporters should already have received in the mail a Survey 2014 results roster

**unionism are raining down on federal candidates like Louisiana Democrat Sen. Mary Landrieu.**

informing them whether and how their federal candidates have responded to the Right to Work survey.

Pro-Right to Work Americans who have not yet received their Survey 2014 results may obtain a copy by contacting the Committee by e-mail -- [Members@NRTW.org](mailto:Members@NRTW.org) -- or by dialing 1-800-325-7892.

By calling, writing and visiting their candidates and urging them to declare themselves in opposition to Big Labor special privileges, Committee members

are making forced unionism and the Right to Work important issues in state after state this year.

### **Right to Work Activity Key to Stopping Big Labor**

At this writing, just a few weeks remain until Election Day.

And reports from a wide array of pollsters and pundits indicate that the congressional caucus of politicians who support Big Labor's agenda on forced-unionism issues will shrink after voters go to the polls next month.

Consequently, Right to Work advocates and their allies will likely continue to be able in 2015 and 2016, as they have been throughout the Obama Administration, to block Big Labor legislative power grabs like federally-mandated "card checks" on Capitol Hill.

However, Big Labor President Barack Obama will, of course, retain the power until January 2017 to promote compulsory union membership by issuing executive orders and by appointing forced-unionism apologists to powerful federal agencies such as the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB).

Congress has the constitutional authority to thwart the President from unilaterally giving away the store, but doing so requires a strong commitment to principle on the part of senators and representatives.

"Changes in Congress that are merely unfavorable to Barack Obama's Democratic Party won't nearly suffice to turn back the tide of forced unionism if his Big Labor cheerleaders on the NLRB retain the power to rewrite federal labor law bureaucratically," observed Committee President Mark Mix.

See **Pick-Ups** page 2

# Right to Work Pick-Ups Possible

Continued from page 1

“And since certain union power grabs such as police/fire monopoly-bargaining legislation, which would corral into unions currently independent public-safety officers across the country, are backed by many GOP politicians as well as virtually all Democrats, their passage remains a danger.

“Whatever happens on November 6, Right to Work activity will remain critical for stopping the expansion of forced unionism.”

## Two Union-Label Senators Now Trail Pro-Right to Work Challengers in Polls

This fall, Right to Work supporters hoping to enhance their ability to fight forced unionism over the next two years have multiple opportunities in U.S. Senate contests.

Just to start with, the current senators with pro-forced unionism records are, according to the latest polls, trailing in their re-election campaigns against 100% pro-Right to Work challengers.

Big Labor Louisiana Democrat Mary Landrieu is in the worst shape. Ms. Landrieu, who is seeking a fourth Senate term, has a long record of backing union special-interest legislation.

For example, in 2009 Ms. Landrieu voted to kill a national Right to Work law amendment sponsored by then-Sen. Jim DeMint (R-S.C.) and thus forced hardworking Americans to continue paying union dues or fees just to get a job or keep their job.

And in 2011 Ms. Landrieu was one of 54 senators who voted to give the Obama NLRB a green light to rewrite longstanding rules for how Big Labor acquires monopoly-bargaining control over workers in order to make it far easier for union organizers to accomplish that objective.

Recent surveys indicate she is running behind GOP challenger and national Right to Work law cosponsor Congressman Bill Cassidy.

Most of the latest polls also show another union-label senator, Arkansas Democrat Mark Pryor, trailing a GOP challenger who unabashedly opposes forced unionism.

Congressman Tom Cotton, like Mr. Cassidy a Right to Work law cosponsor, has a small lead over Mr. Pryor.

Both Ms. Landrieu and Mr. Pryor

voted for the “Card Check” Unionization Bill that would have virtually eliminated secret-ballot voting for union certification and handed Big Labor a huge new weapon to force workers into unions.

Ms. Landrieu was even a cosponsor of this anti-worker measure.

## At Least Two ‘Open’ Senate Seat Gains Likely For Right to Work

There are also several Right to Work opportunities to pick up “open” U.S.

Senate seats that have up to now been under union lobbyists’ control.

In Montana and South Dakota, 100% pro-Right to Work candidates are now leading by substantial margins in contests for Senate seats now held by opponents of Right to Work.

The candidates who are standing up to the union bosses are U.S. Rep. Steve Daines (R-Mont.) and former Gov. Mike Rounds (R-S.D.). Their Organized Labor-backed Democrat rivals are state Rep. Amanda Curtis (D-Mont.) and businessman Rick Weiland (D-S.D.).

In a third “open” seat race in Iowa, forced-unionism foe and state Sen. Joni Ernst (R) is running neck-and-neck in a contest against pro-union monopoly

See **Politicians** page 3



CREDIT TO: SEAN DELONAS/CITY JOURNAL

**The National Right to Work survey program leaves pro-forced unionism candidates with a choice. They may**

**repudiate their past support for union special interests, or be held accountable by the public.**

# Politicians Being Held Accountable

Continued from page 2

Congressman Bruce Braley (D) to determine the successor of Big Labor “go-to” U.S. Sen. Tom Harkin (D).

To build a Senate firewall against compulsory unionism, the Right to Work movement will need to be effective at defense as well as offense in 2014.

## Three Senate Seats Currently Held by Right to Work Allies Targeted by Union Hierarchy

In Kansas, GOP Sen. Pat Roberts, who resolutely opposes forced unionism, is locked in a tight race with union boss-backed Independent candidate Greg Orman, who is refusing to say how he will vote on Right to Work-related issues.

A second pro-Right to Work incumbent facing an aggressive challenge is Kentucky Republican Mitch McConnell, the Senate minority leader. This fall Big Labor is pouring forced-dues money into Secretary of State Alison Grimes’ campaign to unseat him, and recent polls indicate he leads only by a small margin.

Yet another union-boss target is the U.S. Senate seat held by anti-forced unionism Georgian Saxby Chambliss, who is retiring. In the race to replace him, 100% Right to Work supporter David Perdue (R) holds only a slight lead over Michelle Nunn (D), who refuses to say how she will vote regarding Big Labor special privileges.

## Committee Rallies Members To Put Heat on Candidates

The eight states discussed above are just some of those where the Senate survey program is in high gear this fall.

In several other states like Alaska and New Hampshire, where neither major-party Senate nominee has yet made a commitment to support Right to Work, Committee leaders remain cautiously optimistic that at least one candidate will make such a pledge by Election Day, so pro-freedom voters have a choice.

And Committee strategists continue to monitor states like New Mexico, Oregon and Minnesota, where there is a strong contrast between the fall candidates on the Right to Work issue, but where polls currently indicate the race will not be close. If the polls close, the Committee will be ready.

The National Right to Work Committee and its members (now 2.8 million)

are determined to ensure that federal politicians who carry water for Big Labor are held accountable this fall.

The principal Committee program for holding politicians’ feet to the fire is the federal candidate Survey 2014.

The ongoing Survey 2014 consists of three phases.

In the first phase, candidates received questionnaires asking them how they intended to vote on a short list of forced unionism-related issues, including national Right to Work legislation, mandatory “card checks,” and federalized public-safety union monopoly bargaining.

“The Committee’s goal is to forge increased support for Right to Work in the Senate and House,” explained Mr. Mix.

“That’s why the Right to Work survey raises the pressure on candidates to oppose the expansion of Big Labor’s forced-unionism privileges, and also to support rolling those privileges back.”

In the second phase of the Survey 2014, Committee members called and wrote the candidates, asking them to answer their questionnaires 100% in favor of Right to

Work.

In the final phase, the Committee, through TV and newspaper ads, e-mails and the Postal Service, is reporting back to members and friends at the local level on how their candidates responded. That keeps the heat on non-responsive candidates to take a clear stand on the Right to Work issue.

## Public Doesn’t Support Compulsory Unionism

“Big Labor has far more money at its disposal than do Right to Work supporters, but the union bosses have one major problem: The general public, and even the workers they claim to represent, don’t support what they are selling,” said Mr. Mix.

“Poll after poll shows that nearly 80% of Americans agree that no one should be forced to join or pay dues to a union, simply in order to keep his or her job.

“With members’ generous support, I’m confident that this fall the federal survey will convince candidate after candidate to pledge to stop attacking employees’ Right to Work, and candidates who refuse will be held accountable by the public.”



Although his constituents overwhelmingly support Right to Work, during his 12 years in the Senate Mark

Pryor (left) has regularly sided with union dons like Boilermakers operative Rodney Allison.

# A Big Labor 'License to Lie' to the IRS?

## Union Bosses Massively Underreport Their Political Expenditures

Under the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) and the Railway Labor Act (RLA), and under many state statutes that are patterned after these two federal laws, Big Labor wields the power to force millions of employees to pay union dues or fees, or be fired from their jobs.

And it is largely because of their special forced-unionism legal privileges that top union officials preside today, just as they have for decades, over the most powerful political machine in America.

Last year, a National Institute for Labor Relations Research analysis of reporting forms filed by union officials themselves with federal and state agencies conservatively estimated that Big Labor had spent \$1.7 billion on politics and lobbying just in the 2011-2012 campaign cycle.

Even if one ignores union contributions reported elsewhere, the LM-2 forms that all larger private-sector and some government-sector unions are required to file with the U.S. Labor Department show a total of \$1.37 billion in expenditures on "political activities and lobbying" in 2011-2012.

Forced dues-fueled political spending

reported on LM-2's does not go directly into candidate or PAC coffers, but does pay for phone banks, get-out-the-vote drives, propaganda mailings, and other so-called "in-kind" support for union boss-favored candidates.

### In 2006, AFL-CIO Bosses Told IRS They Spent Zero Dollars on Politics!

In 2003, then-President George W. Bush's Labor Department revised LM-2 forms with the avowed goal of helping millions of workers who are forced to pay union dues or fees as a job condition get a better idea of where their conscripted money was going.

Although the reform was ultimately watered down in a misguided and futile attempt to appease the union brass, since it withstood an extended Big Labor legal challenge nearly a decade ago, the revised LM-2 has required union officials to report each year how much they spend on electioneering and lobbying.

Union bosses know they face possible prosecution if they lie about their political spending on their LM-2 forms.

But evidently many believe they can blatantly lie to the IRS without any repercussions.

As Connor Wolf of the *Daily Caller* reported on Labor Day, ever since LM-2's began requiring union bosses to disclose how much they spend on "political activities and lobbying," there have routinely been gross discrepancies between what Big Labor reports on these forms and what it reports to the IRS.

Like other nonprofit groups, unions are, at least in theory, legally required to disclose on the Form 990 they annually submit to the IRS their total political expenditures.

Moreover, as then-IRS Director of Exempt Organizations Lois Lerner admitted in 2007, in order to comply with federal tax law, a labor union must also report on its Form 990 *all* political expenditures that it is required to report on its LM-2.

Ms. Lerner made that admission after being informed in writing that the national AFL-CIO conglomerate, to take just one example, had reported \$29.6 million in political and lobbying expenditures on its LM-2 in 2006, while claiming zero political expenditures on its Form 990.

She also conceded to her correspondent that such vast discrepancies in reporting had "raised concerns" at the IRS, but there is no evidence any investigation ever occurred as a result of the inquiry.

### Some Union Bosses Have Stopped Trying to Hide Political Spending From IRS

National Right to Work Committee Vice President Greg Mourad noted that, since the IRS brushed aside complaints about false reporting on union bosses' 990's in 2007, officers of certain unions have stopped trying to hide their political expenditures from the agency.

"In 2011 and 2012, for example," said Mr. Mourad, "political expenditures on Service Employees International Union bosses' Form 990 were of a similar magnitude to what they reported on their LM-2. But the AFL-CIO brass left blank the 990 line on which they were supposed to report their total political spending. It seems that, for Big Labor, telling the IRS the truth is purely optional." 

## Big Labor LM-2's vs. Its IRS 990's

Organization Name	2005 LM-2 Political Activities & Lobbying	IRS 990 Item 81 Political Expenses*
AFL-CIO	\$49,286,075	\$0
NEA Union	\$24,985,250	\$0
AFT Union	\$15,776,764	\$0
Fire Fighters	\$4,682,949	\$0
Electrical Workers (IBEW)	\$4,637,733	\$0
Treasury Employees Union	\$2,225,619	\$0
Bldg & Constrn Trades	\$2,063,132	\$0
Transit Union	\$1,536,285	\$0
Iron Workers**	\$1,434,615	\$0
Rural Letter Carriers	\$1,069,804	\$0
Plumbers	\$963,054	N/A
Transport Workers	\$907,303	\$0

\*2004 IRS 990 data unless otherwise indicated. \*\* 2005 IRS 990 data.

Union bosses know they face possible prosecution if they lie about their political spending on their LM-2

forms. But evidently many believe they can blatantly lie to the IRS without any repercussions.

# Grass-Roots Efforts Challenge Forced Unionism

## State Groups Bolstered by Recent Victories in Indiana, Michigan

This fall, members of grass-roots groups based in states as diverse as Montana, Kentucky, and New Hampshire are striving with all their might to follow in the footsteps of Indiana and Michigan Right to Work advocates.

Freedom-loving citizens in Montana, Kentucky, and New Hampshire, as well as in other states like Ohio, Delaware and Colorado, are turning up the pressure on their state legislative and executive candidates to oppose forced unionism.

And proponents of making union membership fully voluntary now sense they have the wind at their back, largely because of the recent enactments of the 23rd and 24th state Right to Work laws in Indiana and Michigan, respectively.

The calendar year these two statutes were adopted, 2012, was the first since 1954 in which two states prohibited the firing of employees for refusal to pay dues or fees to an unwanted union.

### Real Employee Compensation in Right to Work States Grew By 16% Over Past 10 Years

One reason public efforts to enact more state Right to Work laws are intensifying is persistently slow nationwide economic growth in the more than five years since the official end of the 2008-2009 national recession.

With overall U.S. employment and incomes rising only at a snail's pace, every state is under more pressure to capture as great a share as possible of all domestic growth.

And a wide array of evidence strongly indicates that having a Right to Work law on the books does help a state garner more job-creating and income-raising business investments.

For example, inflation-adjusted U.S. Commerce Department data show that, from 2003 to 2013, private-sector employee compensation (including wages, salaries, bonuses and benefits) increased by 16.0% in the 22 states that protected the Right to Work throughout the entire period.

That real gain is more than half again as great as the national average and nearly double the average for the 26 states that lacked Right to Work laws for the whole decade. (Since they passed Right to Work laws in 2012, Indiana and Michigan are excluded.)



CREDIT: CHRISTINE BAKER / HARRISBURG PATRIOT-NEWS

Despite Pennsylvania GOP Gov. Tom Corbett's tacit support for his state's forced-dues status quo, the union

political machine is going all out to defeat him this year, and polls indicate it will succeed.

But the fact is, grass-roots support for the Right to Work principle is not driven primarily by economics.

pleases with the fruit of his or her labor is politically smart.

### Each Worker Is 'Entitled' To 'Do as He Pleases' With 'The Fruit of His Labor'

National Right to Work Committee Vice President Matthew Leen commented:

"Most Americans who care strongly enough about the Right to Work to lobby their state candidates to support legislation barring forced union dues and fees believe that corralling a worker into an unwanted union is just plain wrong.

"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 popular vote:

"I believe each individual is naturally entitled to do as he pleases with himself and the fruit of his labor, so far as it in no wise interferes with any other man's rights."

Mr. Leen added that, besides being morally right, standing up for each worker's freedom to do as he or she

### Appeasement Doesn't Work

"Less than a year after the Indiana Legislature voted to enact a state Right to Work law," Mr. Leen explained, "Hoosier voters responded by granting the Republicans expanded majorities in both chambers, and by a full nine seats in the case of the House.

"And this year, among the 21 governors in both major parties who are seeking reelection, the only one who seems at this time to be almost certain to lose is Big Labor-appeasing Pennsylvania Republican Tom Corbett.

"Mr. Corbett has tacitly supported the forced-dues status quo in his state by refusing to lift a finger on behalf of any effort to pare back significantly union bosses' special privileges.

"Of course, this stance has not quelled Big Labor opposition to Mr. Corbett's reelection by even a whit. The union political machine is now going all out to unseat Mr. Corbett and install unabashedly pro-union monopoly Democrat Tom Wolf in his place. And polls strongly indicate this scheme will succeed." 📌

# Harry Reid Ready to Give Voters a Raspberry

## 'Lame Duck' Senate May Return Forced-Unionism Zealot to NLRB

This past July, President Barack Obama made it clear that even a stern rebuke from a unanimous U.S. Supreme Court wouldn't stop him from packing the powerful National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) with radical proponents of compulsory unionism.

And now Big Labor U.S. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (Nev.) is unmistakably signaling that an equally stern rebuke from American voters this November won't stop him and his caucus from rubber-stamping the President's pro-union monopoly NLRB nominees.

Capitol Hill insiders are predicting that, right after next month's elections, Mr. Reid will convene a special "lame duck" session of the Senate in order to confirm ex-Ted Kennedy aide Sharon Block to a five-year NLRB term.

Of course, a "lame duck" vote will allow union-label senators in Mr. Reid's caucus who are facing tough 2014 re-election campaigns to do the bidding of the President and Big Labor bosses, without having to explain their actions until after Election Day.

Ms. Block's nomination is controversial largely because of her unabashed support for bureaucratically "reinterpreting" federal labor law to expand union officials' longstanding special privileges.

### Not One High Court Justice Bought Obama Excuse For Phony 'Recess' Appointments

But Ms. Block's nomination is also controversial because, not quite three years ago, she was one of three nominees



CREDIT: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Committee members face an uphill battle to stop the NLRB nomination of ex-Ted Kennedy aide Sharon Block.

illegally installed on the NLRB by the President as "recess" appointees when the Senate was not actually in recess.

Acting at Big Labor's behest, in January 2012 Mr. Obama appointed Ms. Block, fellow forced-unionism zealot Richard Griffin, and attorney Terence Flynn to the NLRB before any Senate debates or votes had been held on their nominations.

The mislabeled "recess" appointments were promptly challenged in court.

And this June 27, the Supreme Court unanimously ruled that the President had violated the U.S. Constitution in making these appointments, invalidating hundreds of rulings in which one or more of the three illegal appointees had

participated.

None of the justices, not even the President's two appointees, bought the White House contention that the Senate was actually adjourned in early January 2012, even though the chamber was periodically meeting and holding votes.

But the strong condemnation of the White House by the High Court in *Noel Canning v. NLRB* apparently didn't trouble the President at all. Less than two weeks after the decision, Mr. Obama renominated Ms. Block, a union-boss favorite, for an NLRB seat that is opening up on December 16.

### Sharon Block Favors Forcing Union Nonmembers to Pay For Big Labor Lobbying

Since ex-AFL-CIO lawyer Nancy Schiffer's NLRB term does not expire until December, and since, according to most observers, there is a real possibility that Harry Reid will lose control of the Senate next month, some pundits originally speculated that Big Labor's future control over the NLRB might be in jeopardy.

What they failed to account for is Mr. Reid's willingness to call a "lame duck" session to ram the Block nomination through before the new Senate is seated, even if the American people have just registered their disapproval of his subservience to Big Labor by ending his tenure as majority leader.

"During the 18 months she spent on the NLRB as an illegal appointee, Sharon Block proved time and again that she is virtually always ready to vote for union special interests," said National Right to Work Committee Vice President Mary King.

"As a *Wall Street Journal* editorial recently pointed out, Ms. Block has even voted in favor of forcing union nonmembers to bankroll union lobbying 'related' to issues addressed in union monopoly bargaining, 'in contradiction of the Supreme Court's 1988 *Beck* decision.'

"Given her record of extremism, and her lack of compunction about sitting on the NLRB illegally, Ms. Block ought to be easy to stop in the Senate. In reality, this is a steeply uphill fight. But it's one Right to Work members can't avoid."

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# Act 10 Success Hard to Deny

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union brass will have 40,000 professional staff and rank-and-file militants “deployed in key states,” and “focused both on gubernatorial and U.S. Senate campaigns.”

The AFSCME union political army will be doing voter I.D. and mobilization door-to-door and in workplaces as well as through phone banks.

All potential voters for pro-forced unionism candidates, and not just union members and their households, will be targeted.

And thanks largely to the forced-dues privileges they continue to wield in states where a majority of America’s state and local public servants are employed, AFSCME bosses can, to quote Ms. Gold, “muster substantial financial resources, at will.”

## Act 10 Has Saved Wisconsin Taxpayers Roughly \$3 Billion Since It Took Effect in 2011

During the 2010 midterm elections alone, Ms. Gold noted, AFSCME union bosses openly acknowledged pouring “roughly \$90 million into local, state and federal campaign efforts.”

What is it about Act 10 that is so terrible as to prompt Lee Saunders and

other czars of giant national unions to funnel so much forced-dues money into punishing Wisconsin elected officials who supported it and preventing similar reforms from being adopted in other states?

“The reality is, other than union kingpins, Badger State residents from all walks of life have benefited from Act 10,” said National Right to Work Committee President Mark Mix.

“Nonpartisan analysts essentially agree with Gov. Walker that Act 10 has saved taxpayers roughly \$3 billion since it took effect.

“Meanwhile, the ability of the state and its localities to recruit and reward good public employees has actually improved.

“School districts, for example, no longer have to waste millions and millions of dollars buying overpriced health insurance from a teacher union subsidiary, because they no longer need teacher union bosses’ acquiescence to change their insurance providers.

“Teachers can thus get better health insurance at a lower cost, and the savings can be used for better purposes such as rewarding good teachers or reducing taxes.”

Mr. Mix cited a September editorial by the Wisconsin *State Journal*

(Madison), which even as it fretted that Act 10 must be too “polarizing” because union bosses oppose it so vociferously, acknowledged that, under this law, “sought-after teachers across Wisconsin are now enjoying large pay raises . . . .”

## Despite Act 10’s Success, Passing Similar State Laws in The Future Won’t Be Easy

“National Right to Work Committee members in Wisconsin who participated in the lobbying campaign to get Act 10 passed in the first place deserve part of the credit for these successes, as do National Right to Work Legal Defense Foundation attorneys who have helped defend the law in court,” added Mr. Mix.

“Of course, the recent citizen victories against government union monopolists in Wisconsin and a handful of other states like Indiana, Tennessee and Michigan have so far only modestly reduced the flow of money going into national union coffers extracted from public workers who would prefer not to join.

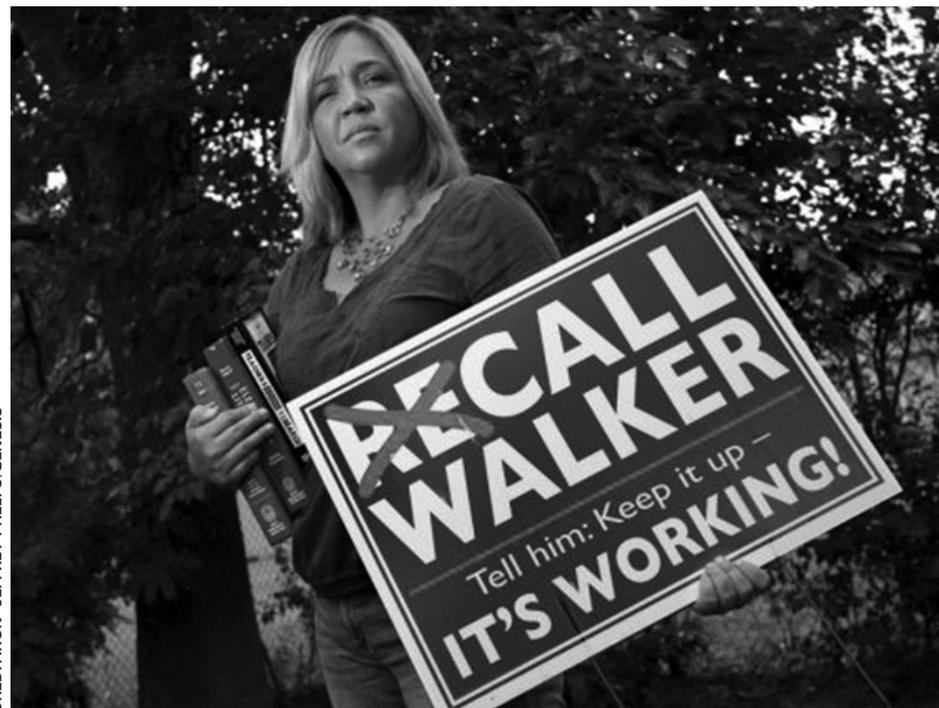
“Only if more and more states follow suit in revoking their government-sector forced-unionism laws and reducing the scope of (or simply eliminating) union monopoly bargaining over public employees will the inordinate power of Big Labor bosses like Lee Saunders be significantly reduced.

“And despite Act 10’s obvious successes, passing similar state laws in the future won’t be easy.

“In many states that are already reeling under the weight of unnecessary and wasteful public spending related to monopolistic government unionism, politicians in both parties still appear reluctant to do something serious about it by curtailing Big Labor’s special privileges.

“To help stiffen the spines of state candidates around the country, the Right to Work Committee is now mobilizing citizen activists to contact them and ask them to make public pledges, before Election Day, to stand up to government union bigwigs once they are in, or returned to, office.

“I am cautiously hopeful that, thanks to a combination of mounting public pressure and fiscal reality, several more state ‘Act 10’s’ will materialize and pass into law over the course of the next few years.” 



CREDIT: RON JEFFREY PHELPS/GENESIS

Thanks to Wisconsin’s Act 10, “the most sought-after school teachers” are “enjoying large pay raises.” The results

resoundingly vindicate educators like Kristi Lacroix (pictured), who backed the law all along.

# 'We Have a Score to Settle With Scott Walker'

## *Government Union Czars Intend to Squelch Right to Work Momentum*

It was 55 years ago last month that Wisconsin Democratic Gov. Gaylord Nelson, a former union lawyer and field rep for the Badger State affiliate of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME), struck a major blow for government union bosses nationwide.

On September 22, 1959, this dyed-in-the-wool Big Labor supporter put his signature on the first state law to be adopted anywhere in the U.S. explicitly authorizing and promoting monopolistic unionism in the government sector.

To get this measure to the governor's desk, then-AFSCME union President Arnold Zander and his cohorts in Washington, D.C., and Madison, Wis., had to agree to several compromises.

Among these, surely the most painful for union officials was the inclusion of a provision explicitly protecting public employees' Right to Work regardless of union membership or fee payment.

Even without a license to force employees to bankroll union activities, the first state public-sector monopoly bargaining law quickly proved to be a boon for the AFSCME union hierarchy.

By early 1961, Wisconsin AFSCME locals were already collecting union dues from 25,000 workers, double the number of dues-payers of just a year earlier.

### **Government Union Chief Determined to Block Passage Of Any Additional 'Act 10's'**

And just over a decade after its original passage, union lobbyists rammed through the Wisconsin Legislature an amendment to the monopoly-bargaining law abrogating the Right to Work provision in the 1959 statute and foisting forced dues as a condition of employment on state and local public workers.

Today more than 20 states permit, either by statute or through common practice, the firing of public servants for refusal to join a union or pay forced "agency" fees. But AFSCME and other government union bosses face a mounting challenge to their forced-fee and other monopoly privileges.



CREDIT: AP

**Lee Saunders, top boss of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, admits to**

**funneling nearly \$90 million from his union's forced-dues-funded treasuries into politics in 2011-2012 alone.**

In early 2011, Wisconsin, of all places, became the first state in U.S. history to see a measure, known as Act 10, repealing government union bosses' statutory power to collect forced dues receive legislative approval, be signed into law, and take effect.

While several states, including Indiana and Tennessee, have subsequently rolled back monopolistic government unionism, of the states with statutes permitting public-sector forced dues, so far only Michigan, which adopted a private- and public-sector Right to Work law in late 2012, has joined Wisconsin in repealing them.

(Unfortunately, both Act 10 and the Michigan Right to Work law exempt public-safety union officials.)

And Lee Saunders, who took the reins of the 1.6 million-member AFSCME union in 2012, is determined to ensure that no other public-sector forced-dues state follows suit.

In a Washington *Post* interview, conducted shortly after Labor Day, regarding the forced dues-fueled AFSCME political machine's

objectives for this fall, Mr. Saunders vowed to get revenge on Scott Walker, Wisconsin's GOP governor, for prodding legislators to adopt Act 10 and for signing it into law.

"We have a score to settle with Scott Walker," Mr. Saunders bluntly announced to the *Post*.

But punishing Gov. Walker and Lt. Gov. Rebecca Kleefisch (R) for daring to take away some of government union bosses' special privileges is only one of multiple objectives for the AFSCME union elite in 2014.

### **Lee Saunders: I Will Deploy 40,000 Union Staff, Militants For Politics**

As Mr. Saunders explained to *Post* reporter Matea Gold, this fall AFSCME will be pouring vast sums of money, most of it exacted from workers as a condition of employment, into state after state to elect Big Labor governors who will perpetuate forced unionism.

In the "run-up to November's elections," he added, the AFSCME