

# NATIONAL RIGHT TO WORK NEWSLETTER

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## Bill Clinton Hands Union Brass One Last Payoff *Will George Bush Overturn Federal-Contract Blacklisting Rule?*



By imposing a lame-duck blacklisting rule for federal contractors that could corral millions of now-independent

workers into unions, Bill Clinton intends to have the last laugh on pro-Right to Work Americans.

Thumbing his nose at Right to Work supporters, independent employees, and their allies in Congress just one month before vacating the White House, Bill Clinton has furnished Big Labor with a new weapon to force millions of American employees into unions.

The Federal Register published the lame-duck administration's controversial new rule for U.S. government agencies December 20.

Concocted by Clinton bureaucrats who were clearly working in close consultation with union lawyers, the rule puts intense pressure on federal agencies to "blacklist" federal contractors for resisting efforts to corral their employees into unions.

As most Newsletter readers know, federal labor law already authorizes Big Labor to force employees to accept union officials as their "exclusive" bargaining agents.

In all 50 states, railroad and airline employees and employees on so-called "exclusive" federal enclaves may also be forced to pay union dues or "fees" as a condition of employment.

In non-Right to Work states, virtually all private-sector workers may be forced to pay union tribute to keep their jobs.

### **Baseless Union-Boss Charges Could Be Used to Establish 'Pattern of Illegalities'**

The blacklisting rule would vastly increase union bosses' power to exploit so-called "unfair labor practice" charges as a means of intimidating employers into consenting to a forced-dues contract.

For example, professional union "salts" who infiltrate nonunion

See **Bush Team** next page

AP / GREG GIBSON

# Bush Team Resolve a Must

*Continued from page 1*

construction firms at Big Labor's behest frequently file dozens of trumped-up federal "unfair labor practice" charges within weeks after being hired.

The charges are of course designed to blackmail employers into handing loyal employees over to Organized Labor bosses without the employees' consent.

If the employer refuses to be blackmailed, union officials' ill-concealed, or sometimes avowed, goal is to bankrupt the firm.

Under the new rule, thousands of businesses employing millions of Americans could be frozen out of federal contracts worth \$200 billion annually solely because of union bosses' allegations of "anti-union activities" (translation: opposing forced unionism).

## Bipartisan House Majority Had Asked Mr. Clinton To Back Off in July

Pro-Right to Work Sen. Tim Hutchinson (R-Ark.) immediately expressed his outrage:

"This is an egregious example of midnight rule-making, in clear violation of the will of Congress."

Indeed, last July, the U.S. House voted 228-190 to block the implementation of the blacklisting rule at least until completion of a relevant General Accounting Office study. (The study is still unfinished at this writing.)

Public opposition to the blacklisting rule was so strong that 24 of Mr. Clinton's fellow Democrats joined with the GOP majority to cry halt.

But apparently no show of outrage could stop Bill Clinton from making one last payoff to Big Labor before leaving office.

The lame-duck action also helped establish Mr. Clinton's wife, Hillary, a Democratic U.S. senator-elect (N.Y.), as a top proponent of union special interests on Capitol Hill before she even took office.

"Ignoring the outcome of the November elections and abusing his power, Mr. Clinton has put millions of American employees' Right to Work in jeopardy," said Mark Mix, senior vice president of the National Right to Work Committee.

"Rather than risk being debarred from federal contracts they need to stay in business, many firms will undoubtedly consent to the forced unionization of their

employees if this rule stands.

"That's this scheme's principal goal, of course: Forcing millions of additional workers to pay union dues, or be fired.

"And taxpayers will have their pockets picked to pay for huge cost overruns as union bosses use their new weapon to foist costly work rules and featherbedding on federal contractors."

## Right to Work Leader Vows to Fight Back On Three Separate Fronts

Mr. Mix vowed to fight to overturn the blacklisting rule on several fronts.

Right to Work attorneys are now reviewing their options for a possible legal remedy in U.S. District Court once the rule takes effect January 19, Mr. Clinton's last full day in office.

Mr. Mix and his staff are simultaneously coordinating a legislative response with Right to Work leaders on Capitol Hill.

Mr. Mix has also contacted President-elect George W. Bush to request that his Administration reopen rule-making on the issue as soon as it takes office with the aim of overturning the blacklisting scheme as soon as possible.

The first two of these avenues, the courts and Congress, are unfortunately vulnerable to Big Labor roadblocks.

"Although the blacklisting rule raises grave questions regarding both the constitutional separation of powers and due process, there's no way of knowing when, or whether, the courts will overturn it," noted Mr. Mix.

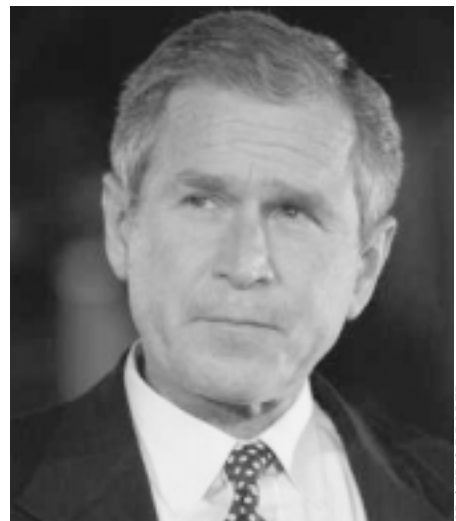
"And efforts to overturn the rule legislatively may be stalled by a Big Labor Senate filibuster led by Ted Kennedy [D-Mass.] and Hillary Clinton."

## Blacklisting Rule Presents Early Test For Mr. Bush

"Therefore, the resolve of the incoming Bush Administration to do whatever is necessary to defend employees' Right to Work may be the key to defeating Bill Clinton's lame-duck power grab," Mr. Mix concluded.

Bill Clinton and his Big Labor bureaucrats have craftily sought to make it difficult to overturn their handiwork.

To do so, the Bush Administration will have to propose a new rule that



AP / ERIC DRAPER

## To overturn the blacklisting rule, President George W. Bush will have to fight with determination.

effectively repeals the blacklisting scheme, then hold firm while union lawyers issue shrill protests during an obligatory "comment" period.

"This will be an early test for George W. Bush and his team of advisors," said Mr. Mix.

During the GOP presidential primaries, Mr. Bush encouraged Right to Work supporters by pledging that, if elected, he would "work with Congress to ensure that no worker is forced to join or support a union" unless he or she freely chooses to do so.

Mr. Bush also vowed to take a pro-Right to Work stand on a wide range of related issues.

"Unfortunately, some of Mr. Bush's advisors are now reportedly telling him that he can fulfill his pro-Right to Work pledges through a symbolic executive order affirming White House support for the Supreme Court's *Beck* restrictions on Big Labor's forced-dues politicking," Mr. Mix noted.

"No matter how well-intentioned, such an order would have little if any impact. Right to Work advocates' early focus will be on how Mr. Bush deals with the blacklisting rule."

Mr. Mix vowed to launch soon a nationwide effort to mobilize Right to Work members to contact the White House in support of overturning the blacklisting rule.

He also urged Right to Work members to begin lobbying the Bush Administration on their own as soon as it takes office this month.

Members may phone the White House at (202) 456-1111 or send faxed messages at (202) 395-4198. 📠

# REVIEW & OUTLOOK — The NEA Inquisition

When it comes to seeing that not a nickel of taxpayer money finds its way into a religiously affiliated school, our teachers unions are quick to quote Jefferson on the hallowed Wall of Separation.

But when it comes to an individual teacher who has moral — and legal — objections to how the union is spending his dues, you don't hear much about Tom Jefferson.

Maybe that's because it was Jefferson's position that "to compel a man to furnish contributions of money for the propagation of opinions which he disbelieves and abhors is sinful and tyrannical."

Denis Robey is a man who has been so compelled.

A 44-year-old teacher in Huber Heights, Ohio, Mr. Robey didn't like the way the Ohio Education Association [teacher union] was straying from education-related issues to support for abortion, homosexuality and things like condoms in schools.

So Mr. Robey did something [union-represented employees] who object to activities that violate their sincerely held religious beliefs are entitled to do under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964: He had his dues diverted to a charity.

Thus in 1996 his dues began going instead to Habitat for Humanity, a non-profit, ecumenical organization that builds simple, affordable homes in partnership with those who need them.

## Even One Teacher's Withholding of Forced Dues Sets 'Terrifying' Example

And if the union had left it alone, there it would have stopped.

But teachers unions don't like to give

up their dues. It's an example they find terrifying.

So they questioned Mr. Robey's sincerity, and last year asked him to fill out a form listing his religious beliefs and asking for the signature of some religious official to confirm them.

In other words, Mr. Robey would have to defend his religious beliefs to the union. More than that, he'd have to repeat the process every year.

In the meantime, the OEA [union hierarchy] dragged its feet, which meant that before Mr. Robey's original form requesting for religious accommodation was processed, he was already filling out another one for the next year.

Mr. Robey turned to the National Right to Work Foundation for help.

*(The Foundation, a nonprofit charity, is the National Right to Work Committee's sister organization. - Ed.)*

Attorney Bruce Cameron says he's been representing conscientious objectors like Mr. Robey for 25 years.

In states such as Michigan, he says, it can be even worse, with those seeking accommodation forced to appear before a union panel to defend their religious beliefs. . . .

The result here was that Mr. Robey and National Right to Work lodged a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

And recently the EEOC came down squarely on their side, finding that the "unnecessary delay" in processing clearly "violates Title VII" and that "once an individual is on record that he/she objects" and has designated a charity, "he/she should not be required to reiterate the objection on an annual basis."

Right now that leaves Mr. Robey's case in what is called a "conciliation period."



**Thomas Jefferson: Compelling a man to pay to disseminate opinions he abhors is "sinful and tyrannical."**

If the teachers unions don't revise their methodology to the EEOC's satisfaction, they will be sued, either by the EEOC or Mr. Robey.

And not just the Ohio affiliate, but the [National Education Association union] itself.

## Shop Teacher Thrust Into Unfamiliar Role Of Conscientious Objector

Americans probably do not tend to associate conscientious objectors with industrial arts teachers.

But in a day when teachers unions have raised themselves into a church that can compel not only membership but financial support for its social and political gospel, religious objectors look more and more like the Mr. Robeys of this world.

The NEA, the OEA and the Huber Heights Education Association have the right to go ahead and press their causes even if they happen to violate Mr. Robey's beliefs.

But Jefferson was right: They have no right to do it with his money.

And if more [union-represented workers] knew they had the same option, that might translate into a healthy curb on the growing tendency among today's unions to move . . . into the pet ideological activism of their staffs. 📧

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**Union officials demanded that Mr. Robey list 'his religious beliefs and . . . [provide] the signature of some religious official to confirm them.'**

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# Pat Kennedy Pulls Strings For Union Felon

## Congressman Intervenes to Stop Disbarment of Confessed Tax Cheat

In a letter sent to the Rhode Island Supreme Court last summer that was first made public only in December, U.S. Rep. Pat Kennedy (D-R.I.) has demonstrated that he is every bit as eager as his notorious father to carry water for a corrupt union boss.

Mr. Kennedy, the son of veteran Big Labor lackey U.S. Sen. Ted Kennedy (D-Mass.), is now himself a rising star in the national Democratic Party.

Pat Kennedy intervened as the state Supreme Court was considering the disbarment of disgraced ex-Laborers International Union of North America (LIUNA) czar Arthur Coia, the founder of a Providence law firm.

He lauded Mr. Coia as “a credit to the Rhode Island Bar” who “conducts himself with an impressive level of integrity.”

This is the very Arthur Coia who just last year pleaded guilty to feloniously defrauding his state and local governments of \$100,000 in taxes on the purchase of three luxurious Ferrari sports cars.

### After Hearing From Pat Kennedy And Other Union-Boss Lackeys, State Justices Were Lenient

In one case, Mr. Coia paid \$215,000, reportedly acquired from his forced dues-funded salary, for a vintage Ferrari, then evaded sales taxes by conspiring with a car dealer to concoct a fraudulent invoice stating the purchase price was \$2160!

Not surprisingly, this Middletown, R.I., car dealer held a lucrative contract providing cars to LIUNA union bigwigs.

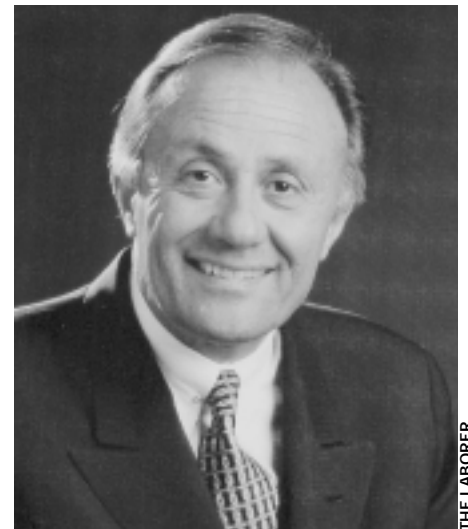
By copping a plea and agreeing to “retire,” Mr. Coia didn’t do any prison time, avoided prosecution on other possible charges, paid only a 10% penalty for tax fraud, and got to continue collecting a six-figure salary as LIUNA “president emeritus.”

In addition to Mr. Kennedy, a number of other Big Labor-controlled Rhode Island politicians, including a former governor, a former state attorney general, a mayor, and a former mayor, lobbied Supreme Court justices not to disbar Mr. Coia.

Finally, in late November the justices voted to reject their own chief disciplinary counsel’s request that they disbar Mr. Coia.



AP / VICTORIA AROCHO



THE LABORER

**Lobbying the Rhode Island Supreme Court to allow ex-union boss Arthur Coia (right) to keep his law license,**

**Rep. Pat Kennedy praised the convicted tax cheat as “a credit to the Rhode Island Bar.”**

Instead, the court opted only to suspend Mr. Coia from practicing law for two years.

“Thanks largely to Pat Kennedy, not only does Arthur Coia get to keep the Ferraris and his \$250,000-a-year ‘pension,’ he can practice law in Rhode Island again starting next year,” said National Right to Work Committee Vice President John Tate.

“Of course, Mr. Kennedy owed Mr. Coia big time.

“Over the past two years alone, the LIUNA hierarchy forked out an estimated \$21 million in union treasury funds, derived overwhelmingly from dues workers are forced to pay as a job condition, and \$2.1 million in PAC contributions to assist federal Big Labor Democratic candidates.”

As chairman of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee during the 1999-2000 election cycle, Mr. Kennedy has special reason to appreciate LIUNA bosses’ generosity.

### Trading Favors With Corrupt Union Bosses a ‘Family Tradition’ For Ted and Pat

But Mr. Kennedy’s father, the senior senator from Massachusetts, is also a member of Mr. Coia’s fan club.

According to the *Providence Journal*, last June Ted Kennedy attended, along with “everybody who is anybody in

union circles,” a special bash in Providence honoring the convicted felon.

“I guess trading favors with corrupt union bosses is a ‘family tradition’ for Ted and Pat Kennedy,” said Mr. Tate.

While Mr. Coia was prosecuted only for tax fraud, there is an apparent consensus among federal investigators of LIUNA that he also knew of and willingly benefited from Mob influence in his union for many years.

In 1994, the Clinton Justice Department accused Mr. Coia of using “actual and threatened . . . violence” against workers who resisted Big Labor-Mob joint rule, but, making a still mysterious about-face, it later put him in charge of the LIUNA “clean-up.”

“Opportunistic politicians’ ongoing homages to Mr. Coia illustrate how the late U.S. Sen. John McClellan’s [D-Ark.] dictum, ‘Compulsory unionism and corruption go hand in hand,’ is now truer than ever before,” said Mr. Tate.

“They are a striking example of why it is necessary to pass national Right to Work legislation that repeals federally-imposed forced union dues and ‘fees’ in order to clean up American politics.”

Mr. Tate urged Right to Work members everywhere to contact their U.S. representative at (202) 225-3121 and their U.S. senators at (202) 224-3121 right away to voice their support for a national Right to Work law. 📧

# Pro-Forced Unionism Past Haunts Governor

## *Right to Work Issue Helps Sink Montanan's Bush Cabinet Hopes*

History shows that it's not only dishonest, but foolish, for a politician to try to have it both ways on the Right to Work issue, leading freedom-loving citizens to believe he is with them during the campaign, then backing forced unionism once elected.

Time and time again, politicians who apparently thought they could get away with it have paid a steep price when their duplicity was exposed.

The latest example is retiring Montana Gov. Marc Racicot (R), whose ambition to become U.S. attorney general, which has been publicly discussed for years, ran smack against his anti-Right to Work past last month.

### **Marc Racicot Concealed Anti-Right to Work Stand Until After 1994 Elections**

In late 1994, a few weeks after Montana citizens had dealt Big Labor legislators a crushing electoral defeat, the state's newly bright hopes for passing a Right to Work law were dashed when Mr. Racicot vowed to veto any such legislation.

The governor actually held a press conference to issue a virulent denunciation of efforts to protect employees from federally-imposed forced union dues.

It astonished virtually all Montanans who witnessed it.

The exceptions were a handful of state AFL-CIO autocrats. At a 1992 meeting between them and Mr. Racicot, which was unreported at the time, he had privately agreed to support forced unionism if elected as governor.

Incredibly, more than two years later, Mr. Racicot cited this previously secret pledge as proof that his position on Right to Work was "consistent"!

### **'Mr. Racicot's Record . . . Should Disqualify Him For Any Position'**

Last month, when published reports indicated that the Bush-Cheney transition team was strongly considering the designation of Mr. Racicot as U.S. attorney general, National Right to Work Committee President Reed Larson was naturally concerned.

In a strongly worded letter faxed to President-elect George W. Bush December 19, Mr. Larson described Mr. Racicot's history of coddling union special interests while seeking to cover up what he is doing.

"Mr. Racicot's record first of dishonesty and then of open hostility toward the millions of Americans who support Right to Work should disqualify him for any position in [the Bush Administration]," Mr. Larson concluded.

The grave questions raised by Mr. Larson and leaders of other grass-roots organizations evidently left the Bush team disenchanted with Mr. Racicot.

On the evening of December 20, facing growing opposition, he formally took himself out of the running for attorney general.

Since Mr. Racicot's governorship expired early this month, he is looking for a new job as this month's Newsletter goes to press.

### **Series of Governors Have Been Educated About Consequences Of Betraying Right to Work**

Mr. Racicot is not the only GOP governor to have stabbed pro-Right to Work constituents in the back — nor is he the only one to have cause later to regret his double-dealing.



**The ghost of Montana Gov. Marc Racicot's (left) anti-Right to Work past visited him just before Christmas.**

When a Right to Work Bill came before the New Hampshire Legislature in early 1995, then-Gov. Steve Merrill worked behind the scenes to kill it.

Many New Hampshire citizens who had worked hard to elect Mr. Merrill as governor in 1992 were flabbergasted by his ill-concealed pro-forced unionism machinations, since he had personally pledged to them to support a Right to Work law.

Nearly two years after the GOP-controlled state Senate voted at Mr. Merrill's behest to kill the Right to Work Bill, he apparently thought he had gotten away with selling out Granite State Right to Work supporters.

In December 1996, he was seen as the clear front-runner to become the next chairman of the Republican National Committee.

But the next month, his well-financed bid went down to defeat after, as *The Washington Post* put it, "the National Right to Work Committee mounted a strong campaign against him."

"The harsh later experiences of Marc Racicot, Steve Merrill, and a number of other governors who have sought to advance their careers by appeasing Big Labor should be a lesson to officeholders of all kinds," said Mr. Larson.

"Right to Work is an important issue at both the national and state levels. You scorn it at your own peril." 📌



**Former New Hampshire Gov. Steve Merrill paid dearly for his anti-Right to Work machinations four years ago.**

# Machinist Battled Big Labor For Four Decades

## *Right to Work Advocates Mourn John Waldum, Their 'Happy Warrior'*

Throughout its 45-year history, the National Right to Work Committee has been blessed with many loyal friends who selflessly offered their support in one legislative battle after another.

But even among revered Right to Work champions, there is no one else like John Waldum Jr., a retired machinist and former union member and a Committee board member since 1967.

Mr. Waldum, who served as the Committee's chairman from 1998 until last spring, passed away November 28 in Lake Worth, Fla.

After announcing the sad news to staffers at Committee headquarters, Committee President Reed Larson bowed his head in a silent tribute, then continued, "The Committee, and I, have lost a true friend and colleague."

"John had a slogan: 'You only keep what you are willing to defend.' And John took that slogan seriously. He spent his life fighting for freedom against the odds, but with an indomitable spirit that was, and will continue to be, an inspiration to us all."

### **Mr. Waldum First Felt Sting Of Compulsory Unionism As a Young Employee**

Mr. Waldum first recognized the injustice and inherent dangers of compulsory unionism as a young man working in Missouri, which had (and has) no Right to Work law.

Kansas City union bosses wielded their monopoly power over his job to intimidate him into joining a strike — even though he believed it unjust and contrary to his long-term best interest.

Mr. Waldum quickly became a convinced Right to Work supporter, even as he continued to try to improve the system from within, both as a member of the Machinists union and as a shop steward for the United Auto Workers union.

As a result of his outspoken support for Right to Work, he endured years of harassment from power-hungry union officials.

Finally, in the early 1960s, Mr. Waldum and his family moved to Florida, a Right to Work state.

He later became a research and development machinist for the Pratt-



**Retired machinist and longtime Right to Work board member John Waldum, shown here testifying before the NLRB**

**in 1993, doggedly pursued the battle he had launched against forced unionism decades earlier.**

Whitney Engine Corporation. All the while, he kept on fighting for the Right to Work cause.

When President Lyndon Johnson and the union hierarchy moved in 1965 to reimpose forced union membership and "fees" in Florida and other Right to Work states by abolishing Section 14(b) of the Taft-Hartley Act, Mr. Waldum enlisted in efforts to stop them.

The pointed testimony that Mr. Waldum and other freedom-loving workers gave to the U.S. House Labor Committee helped slow 14(b) repeal down and ultimately paved the way for its defeat by a Right to Work filibuster in the U.S. Senate.

During the 1970s Mr. Waldum participated in a successful campaign to tighten enforcement of Florida's Right to Work law and stiffen penalties for violators.

### **As a Retiree, Mr. Waldum Was Able to Expand His Lobbying Activities**

After he retired and moved with his wife Dorothy to Sebring, Fla., Mr. Waldum relished the opportunity to expand his lobbying activities on behalf

of the Right to Work cause.

During the 1990s he visited Washington, D.C., a number of times, and accepted invitations to testify before the National Labor Relations Board and congressional committees.


In 1993, he undoubtedly dumbfounded NLRB officials when he called the federal laws empowering union bosses to force workers to pay union dues as a job condition "a travesty of justice" that has transformed Organized Labor into "nothing more than a union press gang."

His testimony and his many letters to the editor often brimmed with moral indignation about how federal law and Big Labor-influenced bureaucrats trample the freedom of the individual worker.

But the ever-present twinkle in his eye made it clear that Mr. Waldum was not angry — only determined to make the world a better place.

"John Waldum was a true gentleman and an outstanding spokesman for the Right to Work cause," said Mr. Larson.

"He will be deeply missed."

Mr. Waldum is survived by his wife and their son and daughter, four grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. 

# Labor Barons Abuse Privileges

Continued from page 8

in from around the country to act as manual-recount “observers” in Broward County:

“Our goal,’ said one [union] lawyer as he patiently lectured his new charges, ‘is to preserve the Al Gore vote.’ The volunteers nodded.

“It’s very, very important that if you see any kind of mark — a scratch, a dent, a pinprick in Al Gore’s column — then you challenge.’

“When someone then asked what they should do if they found a Bush ballot with an indent, the lawyer said: ‘Keep your lips sealed.’”

“Even as John Sweeney continued to intone his pious mantra of ‘count every vote,’ his agents were candidly seeking to steal the election,” said Mark Mix, senior vice president of the National Right to Work Committee.

“And whether they pulled off the heist by tossing out valid votes or by reinterpreting spoiled ballots as ‘votes’ for Al Gore apparently didn’t matter to Mr. Sweeney in the least.

“What’s most disturbing of all is that honest workers who were outraged by the AFL-CIO shenanigans in Seminole, Martin and Broward counties were forced to bankroll them with their union dues.

“An estimated 10 million union-‘represented’ workers and union household members voted for George W. Bush.

“Another million voted for Green Party candidate Ralph Nader or Reform Party candidate Pat Buchanan.

“Why should federal and state law authorize John Sweeney to force the large majority of these citizens to pay for his efforts to put Al Gore in the Oval Office by hook or crook?”

## AFL-CIO Boss Reportedly Pressured Elector to Break Pledge to Vote For Mr. Bush

So intense was the AFL-CIO hierarchy’s campaign on Mr. Gore’s behalf that it reportedly involved a tactic that even the candidate himself had disavowed as beyond the pale.

In his nationally syndicated column for December 3, respected journalist Robert Novak wrote:

“Republican electors pledged to support George W. Bush are being lobbied by Democratic and labor union activists to support Al Gore instead. . . .

“A Texas elector was approached by an AFL-CIO official, who urged him to switch his vote.”

“During the recent controversy over the Florida vote, tampering with electors was denounced by virtually all parties on both sides of the debate,” said Mr. Mix.

“The fact that top AFL-CIO bosses apparently countenanced, or perhaps even encouraged, attempts to corrupt electors shows just how far out on the fringe they are.”

## Congress Shares Responsibility For Outrageous Misuse Of Workers’ Dues Money

“Over the years, I’ve heard of union dues extracted from unwilling American workers being used to pay for union bosses’ luxury cruises, to run prostitution rings, even to help expand the audience of a certain radical radio talk show host known for his invective against so-called ‘Jewish greed,’” added Mr. Mix.

“I didn’t think I could be shocked any more by anything Big Labor did with workers’ forced-dues money, but I am shocked.

“At the same time, I hope the unabashed scheme by union officials and

union lawyers to nullify Florida law, federal law, and the U.S. Constitution for partisan political ends serves as a wake-up call to Congress.


“Is there no abuse of union bosses’ federal forced-dues special privilege sufficiently outrageous to jar Congress into acting to take it away?”

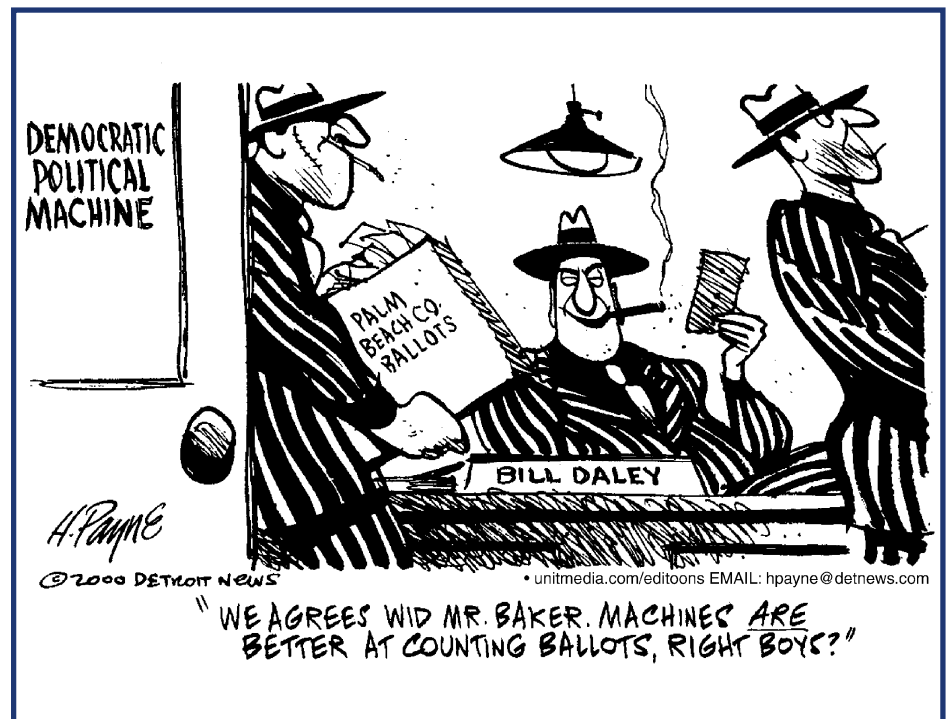
## Time to Remove Illicit Forced-Dues Power

Mr. Mix urged Right to Work members around the country to contact their U.S. House members at (202) 225-3121 and their U. S. senators at (202) 224-3121 to urge them to hold prompt roll-call votes in the new Congress on forced-dues repeal legislation.

This legislation, also known as the National Right to Work Act, would repeal the provisions in federal labor law that now empower union officials to get eight million employees fired should they refuse to pay union dues or “fees.”

“While John Sweeney and his cohorts ultimately failed to overturn the 2000 presidential election, it was a frighteningly close call,” said Mr. Mix.

“Congress and President Bush must work to remove the AFL-CIO elite’s illicit forced-dues power now — or Big Labor may win its next showdown with the Constitution.” 



Forced dues-financed union lawyers lobbied county canvassing boards and county judges to inflate Al Gore’s vote

total and change election rules for manual recounts after the fact in order to install him as President.

# Union Bosses Fail to Overturn Florida Vote

## Forced Union Dues Funded AFL-CIO Chieftain's Personal Crusade

On December 18, 271 of the 538 U.S. electors voted, in accord with their previous pledges, to make Texas Gov. George W. Bush the 43rd President of the United States.

Only then, five days after Vice President Al Gore's concession and six days after the U.S. Supreme Court's 7-2 ruling that the selective Florida recounts undertaken since November 8 at Gore lawyers' behest were unconstitutional, was Big Labor's campaign to reverse the 2000 election result definitely over.

The union hierarchy financed this controversial post-election campaign almost entirely with treasury funds derived from union dues and "fees" that workers are forced to pay as a job condition under federal and state laws.

From the moment the statewide machine recount of Florida's presidential ballots was initiated November 8, union bosses carried out a finely honed plan to reinvent the state's election practices and laws in order to put Mr. Gore in the lead.

Their obvious goal was to hand Florida's 25 electoral votes and thus the presidency to the Vice President.

And at least one AFL-CIO operative reportedly went so far as to lobby an elector who had pledged to vote for Mr. Bush to break his word and help put Al Gore in the White House.

### 'Ground Assault' Targeted County Canvassing Boards

In the Florida presidential election's immediate aftermath, grizzled radical and zealous compulsory-unionism advocate Jesse Jackson played the leading part in street theater designed to promote an array of rationales for overturning the result.



The Florida street protests led by grizzled radical Jesse Jackson were actually orchestrated by AFL-CIO

czar John Sweeney, who paid for most of the "protesters" with workers' forced union dues and "fees."

But AFL-CIO czar John Sweeney and top bosses of the AFL-CIO's 68 international affiliates shipped down to Florida paid union officers to act as "protesters," preprinted signs, T-shirts and other materials.

Union officials even provided many of the slogans that Mr. Jackson's marchers chanted!

Meanwhile, union lawyers assembled the "evidence" and arguments for cynical lawsuits brought in Seminole and Martin counties by Gore allies.

These were designed to toss out 25,000 valid absentee ballot votes, most of them for Mr. Bush, because of a minor and evidently innocent irregularity pertaining to fewer than 4000 of the envelopes in which the ballots were mailed.

A victory in just one of these suits would have been more than enough to wipe out Mr. Bush's razor-thin 537-vote lead in the final certified Florida recount and hand the presidency to Mr. Gore.

Union lawyers and union militants also exerted intense pressure on several county canvassing boards and county judges to acquiesce to Mr. Gore's demands that they inflate his vote total by scrapping preexisting objective standards for manual recounts.

### Union Lawyer: 'Our Goal Is to Preserve The Al Gore Vote'

A November 17 *Los Angeles Times* report described a training session for the AFL-CIO officials who had been flown

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## NATIONAL RIGHT TO WORK NEWSLETTER

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