



NATIONAL RIGHT TO WORK NEWSLETTER

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Senate Leaders Change, Right to Work Presses On *Congressional Opposition to Forced Union Dues Continues to Grow*

It was late November 1994, just a few weeks after a popular backlash against the pro-forced unionism Clinton Administration swatted out Big Labor Democrats' 56-44 U.S. Senate majority, leaving a 53-47 GOP majority for the start of the next Congress.

In those heady days, National Right to Work Committee President Reed Larson cautioned members:

"We have picked up [Senate] strength, but actually passing pro-Right to Work legislation will be extremely difficult, though no longer impossible."

Last month, as Big Labor toady Sens. Tom Daschle (D-S.D.) and Ted Kennedy (D-Mass.) became, respectively, the new Senate majority leader and Labor Committee chairman, Mr. Larson's comments were similarly sober:

"On both sides of Capitol Hill, we continue to chip away at Big Labor's pro-forced unionism majorities."

Forced-Dues Labor Laws Plainly Violate Employees' Basic Freedom

He continued, "The defection of longtime Big Labor-appeasing GOP Sen. Jim Jeffords [now I-Vt.], while it changed over formal party control of the Senate, won't substantially hinder Right to Work supporters' steady progress."

The National Right to Work Act, which now has 61 Senate and House cosponsors, would repeal a half-dozen provisions in federal labor law that authorize firing employees for refusal to pay union dues or "fees."

Employees who aren't protected by a state Right to Work law, including railroad and airline employees in every state, must pay dues or "fees" as a job condition to union bosses whom federal



HARRIS AND EWING (INSET: HUGO BLACK WEBSITE)

Justice Hugo Black: "Our Government has no more [licit] power to compel individuals to support union programs

or union publications than it has to compel the support of . . . employer programs or church programs."

bureaucrats have certified as their monopoly-bargaining agents.

U.S. Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black recognized this system as a plain violation of employees' freedom of speech in his eloquent dissent in 1961's *Machinists v. Street*:

"Our Government has no more [licit] power to compel individuals to support union programs or union publications than it has to compel the support of political programs, employer programs, or church programs."

"As Justice Black saw, forcing workers who aren't union members to bankroll union hate-the-boss propaganda with which they disagree violates their freedom of speech," said Mr. Larson.

"Yet federal labor law explicitly sanctions this type of free-speech violation."

In practice, though not in theory, the law also sanctions Big Labor abuse of dissenting workers' forced dues for partisan politics and lobbying.

May House Panel Hearing Reaffirmed Dire Need For Right to Work Measure

In *Hudson, Beck*, and other decisions, Supreme Court majorities have sought to protect the individual employee's freedom of political speech, while refusing to protect his or her right to refuse to bankroll a union.

These decisions, which were argued and won by National Right to Work Legal Defense Foundation attorneys, are steps in the right direction, and they have

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Before Switch, Jim Jeffords Wagged the GOP Dog

Shrinking Faction of Senate GOP Pushes For Big Labor Appeasement

Less than seven months after winning reelection as a Republican, veteran Big Labor-appeasing U.S. Sen. Jim Jeffords (Vt.) thumbed his nose at GOP Senate leaders May 24, announcing he would become an Independent and caucus with Democrats.

Mr. Jeffords' official switch June 5 broke a 50-50 Senate deadlock and made Big Labor Sen. Tom Daschle (D-S.D.) majority leader and Sen. Ted Kennedy (D-Mass.), the head cheerleader for forced unionism on Capitol Hill, labor committee chairman.

For several years, pro-Right to Work senators led by Trent Lott (R-Miss.), majority leader until last month, have avoided bringing up for votes legislation that challenges Big Labor privileges in order to keep a minority of renegade Republican politicians such as Mr. Jeffords happy.

But Mr. Jeffords himself has now demonstrated the folly of downplaying Right to Work and other politically potent issues that his small GOP faction wanted to exclude.

Big Labor-Appeasement Strategy Doesn't Work

In July 1996, Mr. Jeffords was one of the minority of Republican senators who joined with Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Daschle to kill the National Right to Work Act on the Senate floor.

This minority GOP faction has since shrunk significantly, and of course Mr. Jeffords' defection continues the trend.

Just last year, five other GOP senators who had voted to filibuster the Right to Work Bill to death were defeated.

In all five cases, "ungrateful" union bosses funneled millions of unreported dollars from union treasuries, which consist mainly of dues and "fees" workers are forced to pay as a job condition, into efforts to defeat the GOP Big Labor appeasers.

Big Labor phone banks, get-out-the-vote activities and propaganda mailings assisted the senators' foes.

So much for the former senators' strategy of appeasing the union bosses by stopping Right to Work legislation.

Largely as a result of bitter protests from the "Jeffords wing" of the GOP Senate caucus, for nearly four years leading up to the Democratic takeover



AP / JOE MARQUETTE

After 1996, GOP Senate leaders avoided challenges to Big Labor privileges at the behest of union boss-

appeasing Sen. Jim Jeffords' shrinking minority GOP faction. Now Mr. Jeffords has ditched the GOP.

this spring, GOP leaders had avoided hearings and votes on several Right to Work-related measures.

"Since mid-1996, the steadily shrinking minority of GOP senators who favor appeasing forced unionism seem frequently to have had veto power over which issues are on the table," noted Reed Larson, president of the National Right to Work Committee.

"The tail has been wagging the dog. But perhaps Mr. Jeffords' defection can at last help Mr. Lott and his lieutenants realize how costly appeasing the 'Jeffords Republicans' has been."

Roll Call on Union Violence Would Have Greatly Helped Pro-Right to Work Candidates

Mr. Larson cited as an example Senate GOP leaders' decision to reject the fall 1998 request by then-Sen. Lauch Faircloth (R-N.C.), a staunch Right to Work supporter in the middle of a brutal re-election battle, for a floor vote on the Thurmond-Sessions Freedom from Union Violence Act (now S.902).

This legislation would close the

loophole in federal law that currently exempts union boss-orchestrated extortionate violence from prosecution when it is committed pursuant to so-called "legitimate union objectives."

"Had Mr. Faircloth's request to lead Right to Work forces in a floor fight over Thurmond-Sessions been honored, it could have made the difference and allowed him to defeat Big Labor-backed Democratic challenger John Edwards," argued Mr. Larson.

"Instead, on the advice of the 'Jeffords wing' of the party, Right to Work stalwart Lauch Faircloth was left out in the cold.

"The Senate's failure to confront the union-violence issue also clearly hurt pro-Right to Work Senate candidates, especially challengers, last year.

"How can Senate GOP leaders miss the message of their party's recent electoral setbacks and now the Jeffords defection?"

"Burying Right to Work-related issues only benefits the union bosses and their favored politicians.

"But if GOP leaders do continue to miss the message, it is almost inevitable that Big Labor will solidify its control of the Senate in the 2002 elections." 📣

Decade of Litigation Yields Little

Continued from page 1

helped thousands of employees.

But the “remedy” of authorizing forced dues while seeking to regulate their diversion into politics is not the ultimate solution.

This was amply demonstrated at a May 10 hearing in Congressman Charlie Norwood’s (R-Ga.) Workforce Protections Subcommittee of the House Education & the Workforce Committee.

Referring to the many employee witnesses in that day’s and previous House hearings who have had to fight union bosses over and over again to vindicate their rights under *Beck*, Chairman Norwood suggested they are all too often rights in name only:

“What troubles me most about the . . . *Beck* case is the abstract nature of these rights — in contrast to the practical and actionable nature of the union’s statutory empowerment by Congress,” he said.

“[Workers’] individual rights are placed in a position analogous to David going up against Goliath and individual rights are constructively negated.”

Defense-Industry Worker: After Well Over a Decade, My Case Is Back at the NLRB

Witness Robert Penrod, a defense-industry employee at Ft. Irwin, Calif., has been forced under federal law to accept Teamsters Local 166, “a union I neither chose nor voted for,” as his monopoly-bargaining agent for 18 years.

In 1990, immediately after he learned about the *Beck* ruling, he resigned his membership and informed Local 166 of his objection to bankrolling Teamster-boss politics and other activities for which he could no longer be legally forced to pay.

As Mr. Penrod told Mr. Norwood’s panel, “The union’s response was one of stonewalling and delay.

“Months went by with no reduction in dues or acknowledgment of my rights. My fellow employees who had also resigned from union membership and I were stymied in our efforts . . .”

Aided by Right to Work attorneys, Mr. Penrod and his colleagues finally persuaded the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) to order Local 166 bosses to provide objecting employees with an independently audited financial disclosure, as the law requires.

But that was only the beginning.

Next, Teamster brass demanded that objecting workers pay 94% of full forced dues, or be fired, while supplying an “audit” that was a jumble of numbers scrawled onto a single page. It offered no explanation for forcing the workers to pay that amount.

Undeterred, Mr. Penrod and his colleagues filed new NLRB charges.

After years of additional delay, in an incredibly biased decision, the Clinton NLRB ruled in favor of the Teamster bosses in 1999.

But last year a federal court found the board’s ruling was “unsupported by reasoned decision-making” and remanded the case to the NLRB. In April, the board accepted the reversal, but the case remains unresolved.

Wrapping up his testimony, Mr. Penrod noted that, after more than a decade of litigation:

“My coworkers and I have yet to see a shred of properly audited financial disclosure about what Teamsters Local 166 and its affiliates do with the dues money that they forcibly extract from workers.”



Rep. Norwood: The forced-dues system “constructively negate[s]” *Beck*’s vision of workers’ political freedom.

As noted above, today’s federal labor law is based on the false premise that it is somehow less unjust to force workers to pay for hate-the-boss propaganda that they abhor than for “in-kind” contributions to candidates they don’t support.

However, as the experience of Mr. Penrod and so many other employees illustrates, in practice the law does not even meet the miserably low standard of protecting employees’ freedom that it sets for itself.

Harry Beck of *Beck* Case: National Right to Work Law Is the True Solution

That’s why Harry Beck, the famous litigant after whom the *Beck* case was named, told the Workforce Protections Subcommittee in May that passage of the National Right to Work Act is the true solution to forced-dues political abuses.

“Union bosses . . . [are] snubbing their collective noses at the Executive and Judicial branches of government,” charged Mr. Beck.

“How long will it take before the little guy gets an even break . . . ?” he asked.

Right to Work supporters around the country are urged to stand with Mr. Beck by persistently contacting their senators and House members and asking them to cosponsor and seek roll-call votes on S.873/H.R.1109.

Right to Work supporters can reach their reach their senators and House members through the congressional switchboard, 202-224-3121 or 202-225-3121.

For a copy of the testimony delivered at Mr. Norwood’s important hearing, contact Right to Work legislative liaison C. J. Tosto at cjt@nrtw.org or 703-321-9820. 📞

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How Did Union Become a ‘Criminal Enterprise’?

Bobby Kennedy Would Say Congress Has Duty to Investigate DC 37

Judging by the share of its officers who have been convicted or pleaded guilty to felonies since 1998, union District Council 37 (DC 37) of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees may be the most corrupt union in U.S. history.

More than half the union officials who were on DC 37’s 28-member executive board three years ago have been convicted of or pleaded guilty to theft, taking kickbacks, or contract vote-rigging.

And three more indictments of council officials April 25 and the findings of an audit disclosed by *Newsday* (Long Island, N.Y., Queens edition) May 15 indicate that Manhattan DA Robert Morgenthau hasn’t reached the bottom of the cesspool yet.

The vast majority of the 125,000 municipal workers in the council empire are forced by state law to pay dues and “fees” to DC 37, New York’s biggest municipal union, and its 56 local

subsidiaries as a prerequisite for keeping their jobs.

Municipal employees are also forced as a job condition to accept union “representation” at the bargaining table.

Union bosses retain their monopoly-bargaining and forced-dues privileges despite the fact that Mr. Morgenthau has aptly called the union council a “criminal enterprise.”

Since late 1998, more than 32 council officials have been charged with theft or election fraud.

Federal Taxpayers Also Victims of Union Crooks

As the bosses of a union conglomerate covered under Section 501(C)(5) of the U.S. tax code, the council hierarchy is exempt from paying federal income taxes on its enterprise.

“Council officials have obviously misused the forced dues they have collected under their tax-exempt status,

embezzling countless millions for their personal use,” charged Mark Mix, senior vice president of the National Right to Work Committee.

“Therefore, Congress has both the authority and the duty to investigate the ongoing DC 37 union corruption scandal.

“And you don’t have to take just my word for it.

“Back in the 1950s, Robert F. Kennedy, though a Big Labor partisan just like his brother Ted, the Massachusetts senator, is today, recognized Congress’ duty to investigate corruption in unions and other tax-exempt organizations.”

Mr. Kennedy vigorously defended the need for congressional investigations of union corruption in *The Enemy Within*, his 1960 book on his work as counsel for the Select Committee on Improper Activities in the Labor or Management Field.

(This panel was chaired by staunchly pro-Right to Work Arkansas Democratic U.S. Sen. John McClellan, who later summarized its findings: “Compulsory unionism and corruption go hand in hand.”)

Congress Has Ample Reason To Suspect That Council’s Federal Reports Are False

In *The Enemy Within*, Mr. Kennedy also recalled that a Teamster vice president and lawyer had contended early in his investigation that Congress had no jurisdiction to subpoena union bank accounts and records.

He responded: “I felt that we had jurisdiction because I believed their financial reports, which various unions were required to file with the Secretary of Labor, were inaccurate or false and the Federal Government was doing nothing about it.”

“Given that many council bosses have already been charged and convicted for spending forced-dues funds to buy a Manhattan penthouse suite, a plantation-style house in Georgia, maid services, etc., it’s a safe bet the LM-2 forms they file with the Labor Department are fraudulent,” said Mr. Mix.

He urged Right to Work supporters to contact their senators and representatives at 202-224-3121 or 202-225-3121 and call for an investigation of DC 37 bosses’ abuse of their tax-exempt status. 📧

DC 37 Bosses Convicted or Pleading Guilty*

OFFICIAL	POSITION	CRIME
Alfano, Joseph	Aide to Pres. Local 272, crossing guards	Theft, \$670,000
Autovino, Francine	Pres. Local 384, university clerical workers	Theft, \$50,000+
Bruno, Eugene	Official of Local 1549, clerical workers	Theft of union funds
DeCanio, Joseph	President Local 376, laborers	Theft, \$50,000
Diop, Al	President Local 1549, clerical workers	Theft, \$2 million+, vote fixing
Edey, James	1st VP Local 1549, clerical workers	Theft, \$50,000+
Hughes, Charles	President Local 372, crossing guards	Theft, \$2 million+
Hughes, Martin	2nd VP Local 372	Theft, \$670,000
Jamison, Bessie	Pres. Local 1251, Bd. of Ed. clerical workers	Theft of union funds
Lango, Connie	Treasurer Local 384, City Univ. clerical workers	Theft, \$190,000+
Louis, Richard	Grievance Rep Local 372 crossing guards	Theft, \$670,000
Lubin, Martin	Associate Director DC 37	Contract Vote Rigging
McBryde, Lola	President Local 1597, custodial workers	Theft, \$50,000+
McCabe, John	Head of the white collar division of DC 37	Contract Vote Rigging
Myers, Rober	Treasurer DC 37	Theft, \$50,000+
Rivera, Daniel	Former president Local 1503 museum workers	Kickbacks
Rose, James	Local 372 grievance representative	Theft, \$670,000
Scott, Lionel	Former VP Local 1549 clerical workers	Theft of union funds.
Sessa, Anthony	Former director of DC 37 work program	Kickbacks
Shaplo, Mark	Aide to DC 37 associate director	Grand Larceny
Silverstein, Betty	Former Exec. VP Local 372 crossing guards	Kickbacks
Stephens, Mildred	Treasurer and comptroller of Local 372	Collusion theft \$1 million+
Taylor, Robert	Former Pres. Local 983 vehicles operators	Theft, Vote Rigging
Wilson, Mary	Former VP Local 1549 clerical workers	Theft of union funds

* Only convictions & pleas since 1998

Source: *Newsday, Queens (N.Y.) Edition, May 21, 2001*

As the list of DC 37 officials convicted of stealing workers’ forced dues continues to grow, Congress needs to accept its

oversight responsibility to investigate how this union conglomerate has abused its federal tax-exempt status.

Is Dubya Ready to Clean Up Clinton NLRB?

Administration's Stand on Indian Pueblo Case May Be Key Indicator

Two recent Bush appointees, Solicitor General Ted Olson and National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) General Counsel Arthur Rosenfeld, may soon be drawn into a pitched battle over whether Indian tribes can bar forced union dues on their lands.

Last fall, a panel of judges ruled 2-1 for the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals that Indian tribes have the right to enact Right to Work ordinances protecting employees on tribal lands from being forced to pay union tribute as a job condition.

The decision was a defeat for then-NLRB General Counsel Larry Cohen, who had zealously pursued the crusade to wipe out Indian-reservation Right to Work ordinances launched by Fred Feinstein, Bill Clinton's first NLRB general counsel, in 1998.

Now that President Bush has replaced Mr. Cohen with Mr. Rosenfeld, the question is, will the anti-Right to Work crusade at the NLRB continue?

In mid-May, the entire 10th Circuit heard arguments by pro-forced unionism NLRB lawyers and union-boss lawyers who are seeking to overturn the panel's decision in *NLRB v. Pueblo of San Juan*.

Attorneys for the National Right to Work Legal Defense Foundation offered a friend of the court brief on behalf of the San Juan Pueblo, a federally-recognized tribal council governing a small reservation in northern New Mexico.

If the entire 10th Circuit upholds the ruling against NLRB lawyers, as now appears likely to happen in the next few weeks, Mr. Olson, Mr. Rosenfeld, and NLRB members will come under heavy Big Labor pressure to join an appeal to the Supreme Court.

This could be a key test of whether the Bush Administration is willing to stand up for the Right to Work principle.

Federal Statutes Clearly Give Tribal Councils Power To Protect Right to Work

As solicitor general, Mr. Olson will have the final say on whether the Bush Administration would contest a decision upholding Indian tribes' authority to enact Right to Work ordinances.

The law is quite clear on this matter.

Numerous legal precedents show that federally-recognized tribal councils have

the same authority to enact Right to Work laws as sovereign states.

Nonetheless, union bigwigs and the union boss-influenced NLRB permanent bureaucracy are determined to fight to the finish.

Big Labor is motivated not merely by opposition to Right to Work for any employees, anywhere, but also clearly by lust for forced-dues millions that could be reaped from employees of the growing gaming industry on Indian reservations across the U.S.

"So far, only a handful of the nation's 550 tribes have enacted Right to Work ordinances," noted John Tate, vice president of the National Right to Work Committee.

"No doubt, Big Labor fears that if the Bush Administration calls off the Clinton NLRB's legal war against these ordinances, many other tribes will be emboldened to enact Right to Work ordinances of their own.

"Indian tribes would then have the opportunity to experience the same rapid growth in business investment and high-paid jobs that the 21 Right to Work states have enjoyed for decades.

"Big Labor barons will do anything to stop that from happening. The Bush Administration must be ready to fight them."

NLRB Chairman, Recently Elevated by Mr. Bush, May Assist Union Bosses

One advantage that the union bosses would have in their potential effort to get the High Court to overturn *NLRB v. Pueblo of San Juan* is that the four current NLRB members (there is one vacancy) all share a markedly pro-forced unionism ideology.

"In its relentless efforts to bolster Big Labor, the Clinton NLRB repeatedly disregarded both the decisions of its predecessors and the law," noted John Tate.

Mr. Tate cited as an example the 1999 *Meijer* ruling, which stated that grocery store employee Phillip Mulder and other union nonmembers who aren't protected by a state Right to Work law may be fired for refusal to pay for union organizing.

This decision, which effectively nullified key portions of the Supreme Court's *Ellis* and *Beck* decisions, was so



The Clinton NLRB launched an anti-Right to Work crusade in a small Indian pueblo in New Mexico.

radical it was recently tossed out by the normally pro-Big Labor 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

But two of the three architects of the radical *Meijer* (or, more properly, *Mulder*) decision remain on the NLRB today, and one of them, Republican Peter Hurtgen, was elevated to the board chairmanship by President Bush in May!

"Given their track record, Mr. Hurtgen and his cohorts can be expected to insist that Mr. Olson and Mr. Rosenfeld carry on the Clinton NLRB's war against Right to Work on tribal lands," said Mr. Tate.

Mr. Tate suggested Right to Work supporters call the White House comment line, 202-456-6213, immediately regarding the *Pueblo of San Juan* case, which could come out of the 10th Circuit at any time.

"Please urge the Bush Administration to respect Indian tribes' authority under the law to bar forced union dues on their lands," he asked.

"And urge President Bush not to reappoint pro-forced unionism NLRB Chairman Peter Hurtgen when his term expires next month, and instead replace him with a Right to Work supporter."

1995 Reform's Impact: Salutary, But Limited

Indiana Teachers Remain 'Under Powerful Compulsion' to Join Union

In Congress and in state legislatures around the country today, National Right to Work Committee members combat two basic types of compulsory unionism: forced union dues (usually mislabeled as "agency fees" for union nonmembers) and monopoly bargaining.

Forced-dues collection is the more flagrant of these two, closely related forms of Big Labor oppression.

Under force of law, employees must hand over a portion of their pay to union officials — or be fired from their jobs.

Especially in Schools, Monopoly Bargaining Is Big Labor's 'Cattle Prod'

However, monopoly bargaining is the foundation of forced union dues, and, especially in public education and other government sectors, it is union bosses' most significant special privilege.

Under 32 state laws, teacher and other union officials are handed monopoly power to bargain over school employees' wages, benefits, and working conditions.

Even teachers and other school employees who choose not to join a union must work under contract terms negotiated by teacher union brass, or quit their jobs.

Independent-minded professionals are stripped of any freedom to negotiate with school boards on their own behalf.

Years ago, then-top AFL-CIO lawyer Thomas Harris admitted that union

officials often use monopoly-bargaining privileges like a cattle prod, to herd more workers under their control:

"The fact that the union will negotiate the contract which regulates the incidents of [a worker's] industrial life puts him under powerful compulsion to join the union," he wrote.

Mr. Harris had factory workers in mind, but his frank admission is even more apt for public school employees, who typically feel pressure to join the union not just from union bosses, but from school boards as well.

In contrast, experience shows that a private employee who chooses not to join a union is more often, though far from always, supported by his or her employer in exercising free choice.

Report Shows Indiana Teacher Union Bosses Are Still Unaccountable to Teachers

A new report by the Indianapolis-based Indiana Professional Educators, a group of teachers, principals, and administrators who oppose all forms of compulsory unionism, confirms that monopoly bargaining alone can maintain teacher union tyranny.

Responding to intense pressure from freedom-loving Hoosiers, in 1995 the Indiana General Assembly overrode Big Labor Gov. Evan Bayh's (D) veto and enacted a law that bars the firing of public school employees for refusal to pay union dues or "fees."

Though this law doesn't protect other public or private-sector employees, it is clearly a step in the right direction.

But Indiana Professional Educators' report, *A Formula for Political Power*, shows that the hierarchy of the state's largest teacher union, the Indiana State Teachers Association (ISTA/NEA), has remained largely unaccountable to dues-payers.

Although objective observers agree that Indiana teachers generally share the GOP leanings of the state — which George W. Bush carried by 16 percentage points — 91% of ISTA union bosses' reported partisan political contributions in 1999-2000 went to Democrats.

Moreover, while most Indiana teachers appear to be open to a wide range of school reform proposals, ISTA union bosses' agenda for public schools can

fairly be characterized as opposition to any changes that wouldn't increase their power and cash flow.

For example, in 1998, top ISTA officers opposed every one of four education reform proposals put forth by Gov. Frank O'Bannon, a generally pro-forced unionism Democrat they had helped elect.

Among the innocuous reforms opposed by the ISTA brass was a tutoring program for 10th graders who fail graduation tests!

New Mexico Has Paved Way For Far Reaching Reform

"Because Indiana continues to authorize self-serving teacher union officials to present the only 'employee' perspective in contract negotiations, the vast majority of teachers are understandably reluctant to quit the union," explained Mark Mix, senior vice president of the National Right to Work Committee.

"And teachers who remain union members are effectively coerced by Indiana law into financially supporting the entire ISTA/NEA agenda, as *A Formula for Political Power* amply demonstrates.

"That's why, particularly in public schools, Right to Work members regard the elimination of forced dues and 'fees' as only a half-way solution.

"The real solution is to repeal the 32 state public-sector monopoly-bargaining laws, one by one."

In July 1999, New Mexico became the first state to roll back a public-sector monopoly bargaining law. The five-year-old law was "sunsetting" because union lobbyists had failed to secure reauthorization for it.

This was a major victory for National Right to Work Committee members in New Mexico, who had put intense grassroots pressure on the Legislature to sustain two vetoes of forced-unionism reauthorization measures by pro-Right to Work Gov. Gary Johnson (R).

"Over the next few years, it will become clearer and clearer that New Mexico's rollback is both an educational benefit and a political plus for the elected officials who stood up to Big Labor," predicted Mr. Mix.

"And this can only encourage new efforts to ban monopoly bargaining in Indiana and other states." 📞



Indiana House Speaker John Gregg's (D-Sandborn) political success is an "education" issue, claim NEA bosses.

Far From Beltway, Right to Work Battles Rage

Freedom Lovers Beat Big Labor in Nebraska, Fight Back in Colorado

This spring Right to Work proponents were on the march in three major state battlegrounds, as they defeated two measures designed to gut Nebraska's Right to Work law and advanced Right to Work campaigns in Colorado and Oklahoma.

The ongoing campaigns in Nebraska, Colorado and Oklahoma show that proponents of American employees' Right to Work without being forced to join or bankroll a union can't afford to focus their energies solely on Washington, D.C.

"The nationwide problem of forced unionism was created by Congress," noted Matthew Leen, vice president of the National Right to Work Committee.

"But grass-roots citizen lobbyists have enacted laws that protect the Right to Work in 21 states where 37% of today's private-sector U.S. workforce is employed.

"To be effective, the Committee's fight for Right to Work must be waged at both the federal and state levels."

To find out more about the Committee's legislative program in your state, contact C.J. Tosto, legislative liaison, at 703-321-9820.

Right to Work Foes Retreat in Nebraska

After being mobilized through a statewide Committee mailing, freedom-loving Nebraskans flooded their Capitol in Lincoln early this spring with letters, postcards and phone calls opposing two bills designed to gut the state's 55-year-old Right to Work law.

The public outcry clearly persuaded the Big Labor leaders of the state's unicameral Legislature not to bring pro-forced unionism bills L.B.29 and L.B.153, respectively authored by Sens. Pam Redfield and John Hilgert (both Omaha), out of committee.

Nebraska employees' Right to Work, which enjoys both state statutory and constitutional protection, has been key to the state's remarkable growth in the nineties despite chronically poor market conditions for its traditional farm economy.

Between 1990 and 2000, nonfarm employment increased by 25% in Nebraska, more than the national average of 20% and far ahead of non-Right to



Pikes Peak, Colorado's premier landmark, wasn't scaled on the first try in 1816, but Edwin James and two

companions reached the summit in 1820. Colorado Right to Work supporters are similarly persistent.

Work states' 15% job growth.

Big Labor's Costly 2000 Colorado Blitz Fails To Derail Right to Work

To prevent Nebraska's southwestern neighbor, Colorado, from becoming the 22nd Right to Work state, last year the oligarchy of the national AFL-CIO empire spent an estimated \$10 million in union treasury funds, which consist mostly of forced dues.

The vast majority of the union slush fund was funneled into union front groups focusing on 10 closely contested state Senate races.

With both Gov. Bill Owens (R) and a lopsided majority in the state House of Representatives in favor of a Right to Work law, the union bosses were determined to consolidate their 18-17 pro-forced unionism majority in the Senate.

But after confiscating money from workers around the country to outspend pro-Right to Work Coloradans by a huge margin, the union bosses gained a net of just one Senate seat.

In May freedom-loving citizens came roaring back as Right to Work measure H.B.1301 passed the House, 37-28.

Since political observers agree that Big Labor will be hard pressed to recapture the governorship next year, that means union bosses' privilege to seize forced dues will likely once again be

hanging by a thread in key races for the state Senate.

Will 'Bodyguard of Lies' Protect Forced Unionism In the Sooner State?

AFL-CIO chieftains hope that by defeating a September 25 statewide Right to Work ballot initiative in Oklahoma they can finally dispose of a potent issue that has over the past decade ended the careers of dozens of union-label state legislators.

To stop the initiative, known as Question 695, the Oklahoma AFL-CIO apparatus, as well as officials of unions in neighboring states and national AFL-CIO operatives, are spending millions of dollars in forced dues on deceitful anti-Right to Work propaganda.

"Union bosses consider themselves to be in a war, and therefore justified in following, as they understand it, Winston Churchill's wartime dictum: 'Always be attended by a bodyguard of lies,'" explained Mr. Leen.

To counter the propaganda, the National Institute for Labor Relations Research (NILRR) recently distributed to state media a study detailing how similar Big Labor claims against a 1986 Idaho Right to Work ballot measure have been falsified by history.

To obtain a copy, visit NILRR's website (www.nilrr.org), or dial 703-321-9606. 📞

Bush Budget Trims Labor Department Pork

But Congressional Appropriators May Restore 'Welfare' For Union Dons

Handing at least a temporary victory to National Right to Work Committee members who have long lobbied against federal taxpayer subsidies for forced unionism, the Bush Administration is proposing to roll back the U.S. Labor Department's discretionary budget.

Under the Bush proposal, the Department of Labor would see its discretionary budget fall from \$11.9 billion in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2001 to \$11.3 billion in FY 2002.

This agency's pattern of selectively "investigating" firms that are resisting demands for forced unionism was exposed last August by Congress' General Accounting Office (GAO).

According to the GAO, employers experiencing so-called "labor unrest," which is consistently the result of resisting demands for forced unionism, are 6.5 times more likely to be inspected by the Labor Department's occupational-safety arm.

The Occupational Safety & Health Administration's inspection rate of companies experiencing "labor unrest" nearly doubled during the Clinton Administration, while the inspection rate for other companies actually declined.

Furthermore, an OSHA official quoted in the report openly applauded union bosses for becoming "more aware of the role of regulatory agencies . . . as a

bargaining tool during contract negotiations."

The Labor Department estimates that OSHA will have to cut nearly 100 positions next year if the Bush budget is approved.

AFL-CIO Hierarchy's International Front Group Targeted For Major Cut

The sharpest proposed Labor Department cutback is from \$148 million in FY 2001 to \$73 million in FY 2002 for subsidies to so-called "international labor programs."

These programs are overwhelmingly controlled by the International Labor Organization (ILO), a front group for the AFL-CIO hierarchy.

The fiercely pro-forced unionism ILO has in recent decades become notorious for encouraging boycotts against countries that pass laws protecting employees' Right to Work.

One of the ILO's top targets has been prosperous, egalitarian New Zealand.

New Zealand simultaneously initiated an extended economic boom and enraged Big Labor in 1991 by passing a law that recognizes all workers' right to bypass collective union representation and reach individualized contracts with employers.

Orwellian ILO bureaucrats viciously denounced this law as failing to maintain union organizers' "legal rights," that is to say, Big Labor bosses' monopoly power.

The Bush team is also proposing multimillion-dollar cuts of direct, taxpayer-funded grants to union officials for domestic programs, including so-called "training" programs designed to corral young job seekers into unions.

Budget Proposal Faces Stiff Resistance in House, Senate

Ever since the GOP takeover of the U.S. House and Senate in 1995, National Right to Work Committee members have tenaciously battled to cut off the hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars that annually go to Big Labor bosses and their front groups.

Lobbying by Right to Work members, as well as solid research provided to Capitol Hill leaders and the White House by Right to Work officers, helped pave the way for many of the budget reductions proposed by Bush appointees.

"Right to Work members deserve much of the credit for getting \$600 million in Labor Department cutbacks into the White House FY 2002 budget proposal," said Committee Vice President Matthew Leen.

"This proposal is clearly a step in the right direction."

But Mr. Leen cautioned Right to Work supporters that any cutbacks in federal "welfare" for union bosses, however modest, will face intense opposition when Congress marks up the actual FY 2002 Labor Department appropriation later this year.

"Big Labor-appeasing Republicans and pro-forced unionism Democrats on the House Labor, HHS & Education Appropriations Subcommittee, which drafts this appropriation, will surely try to restuff the Big Labor pork barrel," warned Mr. Leen.

Mr. Leen encouraged Right to Work members to begin contacting the White House now to encourage President Bush to wield his veto pen, if necessary, to make sure his proposed Labor Department cuts get written into law.

You can share your views with the President by leaving a message on the White House comment line, 202-456-6213. 📞



The Bush team's proposed \$600 million cut in union-boss pork-barrel spending at the Labor Department

next year will be intensely opposed by both Big Labor-appeasing Republicans and pro-forced unionism Democrats.