

State Candidates Receive Right to Work Surveys

Program Is Critical For Efforts to Defeat Forced-Unionism Schemes

The National Right to Work Committee and regional and state Right to Work groups recently distributed special surveys to thousands of candidates running for state legislative and executive offices in the November elections.

These state surveys all urge candidates to support employees' Right to Work without being forced to pay union dues or "fees" or accept an unwanted union as their monopoly-bargaining agent.

In Nevada, for example, legislative candidates are being asked to oppose so-called "fee for grievance" legislation that would gut the state's popular, 53-year-old Right to Work law.

Last year, one such scheme passed the state Assembly by a 23-19 margin.

It would have forced union nonmembers to pay for union-boss grievance "services" that the nonmembers are effectively forced to accept. The fact is, any grievance settlement nonmembers currently negotiate with the help of a nonunion lawyer may be junked because it doesn't conform to the union contract.

Thanks to effective lobbying by Right to Work members, the "fee for grievance" scheme was stalled in the Nevada Senate, but Big Labor politicians are virtually certain to reintroduce it after the elections.

Politicians Listen Best Just Before Election Day

Union lobbyists are also dangerously close to pulling off a "fee for grievance" power grab in Right to Work Nebraska.

In February 2003, the Cornhusker State Senate -- Nebraska's sole legislative chamber -- came within a hair of passing a Right to Work-gutting measure introduced by Omaha Sen. Pam Redfield.

After the Committee alerted its Cornhusker members to the threat and legislators began receiving furious phone calls, postcards and letters, the Redfield bill was defeated by just one vote.

Unless senators who voted to eviscerate Nebraskans' Right to Work get a strong message of displeasure from constituents during this fall's election campaigns, the Redfield bill is likely to return and pass the Senate in 2005.


"In order for the Committee to continue succeeding in beating back schemes to gut Nevada's, Nebraska's and other Right to Work laws, members and supporters in state after state need to act right away," said Committee President Mark Mix.

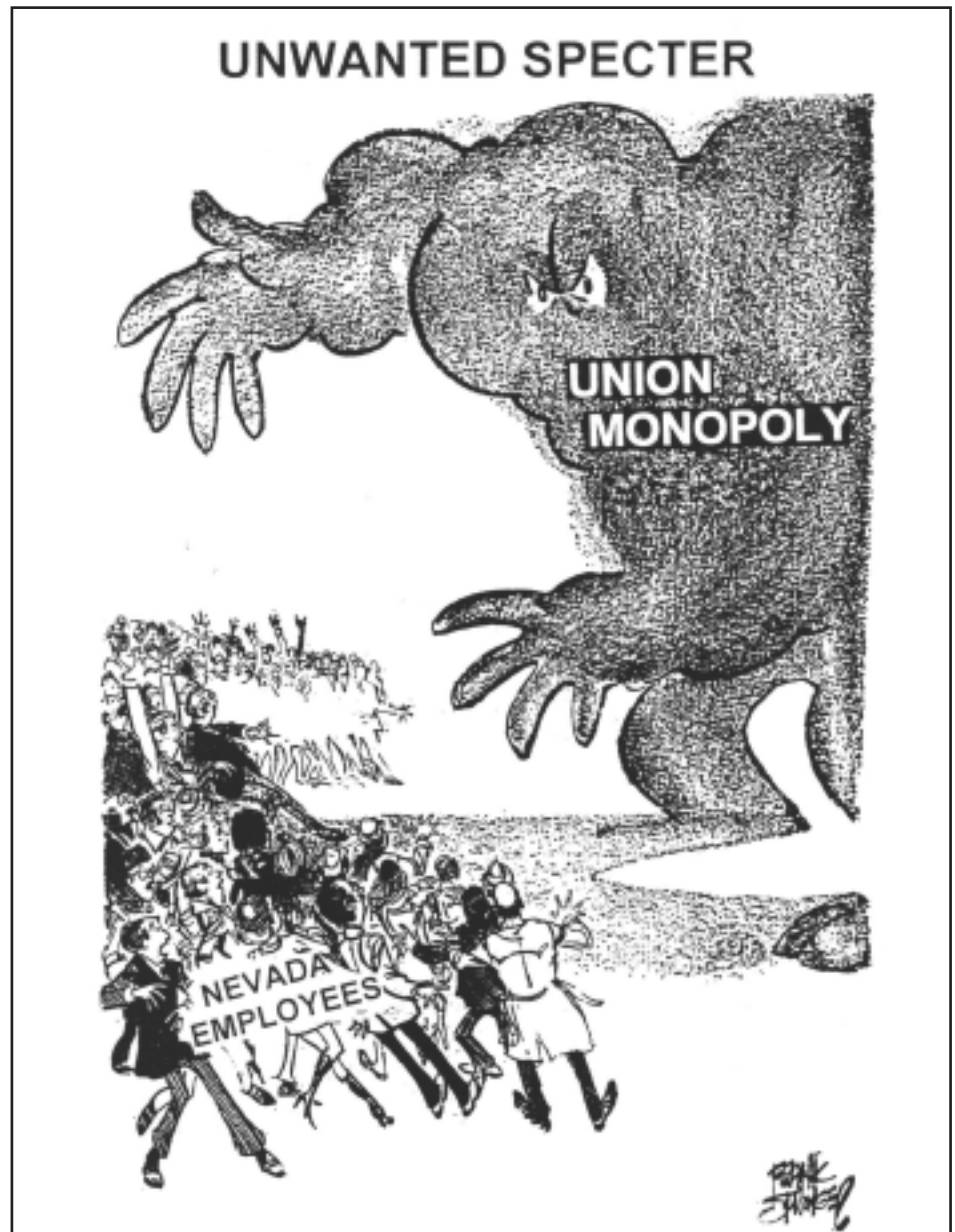
"In targeted states this month, members and supporters are receiving special letters, state legislative and executive candidate rosters, and postcards urging them to contact the candidates," Mr. Mix explained.

"Experience shows that candidates are

much more likely to heed the vast majority of Americans who support Right to Work and pledge across-the-board opposition to forced unionism now -- not after they are safely elected or reelected.

"I urge all members and supporters who are contacted regarding the State Survey 2004 to sign and send their postcards to their candidates right away.

"Or better yet, write personal letters and save your postcards to give to pro-Right to Work friends, family and business associates." 



Many employees in Nevada and other states see union monopoly bargaining as a threat to their interests. The

Nevada Assembly recently voted to give Big Labor even more power over union nonmembers.