

National Democratic Party ♥ 's Big Labor 'Card-Check' Forced Unionism Backed by 99% of House Democrats

From the time the National Right to Work Committee was first established in 1955, until relatively recently, Committee leaders were always able to lobby successfully many elected officials from both of the two major political parties to oppose Big Labor power grabs in Congress.

A telling example is the Committee's all-out 1965-66 campaign to stop the Johnson Administration and the union hierarchy from wiping out all state Right to Work laws through repeal of Taft-Hartley Section 14(b).

Although 14(b) repeal, like the union power grabs mentioned below, was rubber-stamped by the House before being blocked in the Senate by pro-Right to Work members' extended debate, a solid 30% of the 286 Democratic House members voting stood up to the union bosses and defended 14(b).

By the late 1970's, when the House voted on union bosses' so-called Labor Law "Reform" Bill, designed to punish employers harshly for resisting the forced unionization of their employees, Big Labor's grip over congressional Democrats had tightened.

Still, 21% of the 280 Democrats who voted in 1977 opposed the "reform" scheme.

Even in 1993, when the House took up yet another forced-unionism power grab, the Pushbutton Strike Bill, 13% of the 254 Democrats who voted stood up to the union bosses.

But this March 1, the House roll call on Big Labor Congressman George Miller's (D-Calif.) "Card-Check" Forced-Unionism Bill (H.R.800) made it plain that the union hierarchy has achieved virtually 100% control over the Democratic Party establishment in Washington, D.C.

Just 1%, or two of the 228 Democrats who voted, sided with the nearly four out of five Americans who support Right to Work.

Anti-Right to Work Partisanship Has Hurt Democratic Officeholders

The fact that elected officials who oppose forced unionism are no longer welcome in the national Democratic Party has evidently not been helpful for its efforts to maintain its standing in Washington.

True, with the assistance of their Big

Labor paymasters, national Democrats swept the 2006 elections.

But just after the 2006 sweep, Democrats held 233 out of 435 House seats. Right after earlier Democratic sweeps in 1964, 1974, and 1990, when the party caucus still included significant numbers of Right to Work supporters, Democrats held, respectively, 295, 290, and 267 House seats.

As the only other major national political party, the GOP has of course benefited from the national Democrats' self-destructive total embrace of the forced-unionism agenda.

Even after last year's electoral debacle, caused largely by the former GOP majority leadership's failure to stand up for principle and force votes on a whole range of issues like Right to Work, GOP House strength remains much greater than it was before Big Labor had completed its takeover of congressional Democrats.

Unfortunately, some House Republicans still apparently don't understand that they gain nothing by trying to appease union officials.

In the 2005-2006 Congress, just 15 GOP House members cosponsored Mr. Miller's card-check bill (then numbered H.R.1696).

But only seven of Big Labor's erstwhile GOP allies voted for H.R.800 in March. Why?

Five were defeated: one by a pro-Right to Work primary challenger and four by Big Labor-backed Democrats in the general election. One retired. And two, Reps. Randy Kuhl (R-N.Y.) and Jim

Gerlach (R-Pa.), decided to vote "no" after having barely survived all-out electoral attacks by the union machine.

Committee Leader Urges Members to Contact Big Labor-Appeasing Republicans

In addition to the seven surviving 2005-2006 GOP cosponsors of the Miller bill who voted for it in March, another six GOP House members who had resisted Big Labor pressure to cosponsor H.R.1696 caved in and voted for H.R.800.

"Benjamin Franklin is purported to have said, 'The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over and expecting different results,'" said National Right to Work Committee Vice President Matthew Leen.

"As Big Labor's massive and successful 2006 campaigns to defeat Republican cosponsors of the card-check bill like Curt Weldon [Pa.] and Rob Simmons [Conn.] plainly demonstrate, the union bosses don't think they need any GOP help in Congress to enact their power grabs.

"Therefore, there's not even a halfway plausible political rationale any more for Republican members of Congress to vote for forced-unionism power grabs like H.R.800."

Mr. Leen urged freedom-loving constituents of the 13 pro-H.R.800 Republicans listed below to contact them through the House switchboard, 202-225-3121, and urge them to repudiate their votes for this bill. 📞

Pro-H.R. 800 Republicans

Michael Ferguson (N.J.-7)

Vito Fossella (N.Y.-13)

Pete King (N.Y.-3)

Steven LaTourette (Ohio-14)

Frank LoBiondo (N.J.-2)

Thaddeus McCotter (Mich.-11)

John M. McHugh (N.Y.-23)

Tim Murphy (Pa.-18)

Jim Saxton (N.J.-3)

Christopher Shays (Conn.-4)

Chris Smith (N.J.-4)

Jim Walsh (N.Y.-25)

Don Young (Alaska-AL)

The 2006 elections confirmed that GOP politicians only hurt themselves politically by supporting forced-

unionism power grabs like the card-check bill. Still, 13 House Republicans voted for this scheme in March!