

# Union Dons Push For Public-Sector 'Card Checks'

## *Recalcitrant Workers, Not Employers, Are Big Labor's Main Problem*

Regardless of their general views about unions and labor laws, knowledgeable observers of union organizing campaigns have for decades agreed that, throughout most of America, state and local public-sector employers either welcome unionization of their employees, or barely resist it.

There are several common reasons why government employers are often Big Labor-"friendly." For instance, many such employers consider union bosses to be valuable allies in helping them get more taxpayer funding for their agencies.

Even many rabidly pro-forced unionism journalists support the consensus regarding government employers.

"In the public sector . . . managers rarely oppose unions vigorously, if at all," wrote prolific Big Labor-cheerleading reporter David Moberg in the *Nation* magazine in 2003.

Meanwhile, alleged employer opposition to unionization is the top rationale union spokesmen and their allies publicly give for their massive lobbying campaign for "card-check" legislation, which would make it even easier for union officials to grab monopoly-bargaining power over employees.

Forced-unionism apologist Andy Levin, a former union organizer and now deputy director of the Michigan Labor Department, histrionically expressed this idea in May.

### **Installation of Union Monopoly Through Card-Check Tactics Would Be Made Automatic**

Speaking at Michigan's state AFL-CIO convention, Mr. Levin shrieked that passage of card-check legislation (S.1041 and H.R.800) now pending in Congress is needed to stop employers' purported "terror campaign" against unionization.

But if public-sector employers don't resist unionization, and employer resistance to unionization is the key rationale for card-check legislation, why then are union lobbyists across America now pushing for enactment of legislation foisting card checks on state and local government employees?

The federal card-check scheme touted by Mr. Levin is now before the U.S. Senate, after being rubber-stamped by the U.S. House on March 1.

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**Recent campaigns by AFL-CIO czar John Sweeney and other union bosses to ram into law state public-sector**

**"card-check" measures expose the real purpose of their federal private-sector card-check legislation.**

Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Congressman George Miller (D-Calif.), S.1041/H.R.800 would greatly expand the card-check privileges of private-sector union officials.

Under current law, union bosses are already able to grab monopoly power to negotiate employees' pay, benefits, and work rules solely through the acquisition of signed "union authorization cards."

Consequently, individual workers under the peering eyes of union organizers may be intimidated into signing not just themselves, but all of their nonunion fellow employees, over to union-boss control.

However, as stacked as current law is in favor of Big Labor's monopoly-bargaining power, employers nevertheless retain the right to stand up for their independent employees against union-boss intimidation tactics.

But Kennedy-Miller would empower union officials to impose monopoly bargaining through card checks automatically, with no recourse for any pro-Right to Work employee or employer.

### **'Average Citizens Will Easily See Through Union Bosses' Smokescreen'**

National Right to Work Committee President Mark Mix commented:

"Well aware of how ugly the proposed labor-law changes in S.1041 and H.R.800 are to the American public, union lobbyists have tried to make this

legislation appear reasonable by demonizing businesses of all sizes.

"At the same time, however, union operatives have prevailed upon the legislatures of Massachusetts and other states to rubber-stamp parallel legislation foisting card checks on state and local government employees.

"The fact that Big Labor is just as grimly determined to expand its card-check privileges in the public sector of a union stronghold state like Massachusetts as it is in the private sector shows that recalcitrant employees, not employers, are the principal problem for union organizers.

"Quite simply, union organizers prefer card checks because they know from experience that they can use deceit and intimidation to get signed union authorization cards from many employees who don't actually want a union and would vote accordingly if given the chance.

"I'm confident that, as they learn more about S.1041 and H.R.800, average citizens will easily see through the union bosses' smokescreen and recognize that this legislation is fundamentally anti-employee."

Mr. Mix vowed that Right to Work leaders and the 2.2 million Committee members would do everything necessary to defeat Kennedy-Miller.

He urged Right to Work members, even if they have previously done so, to contact their senators now through the Senate switchboard, 202-224-3121, and ask them to oppose Kennedy-Miller on all votes. 📞