

Iowa Right to Work Law Still Under Fire

Committee Strategists Prepare For House Floor Showdown

Over the past year, union lobbyists in Des Moines have pulled out all the stops as they worked to gut Iowa's Right to Work law before the end of the 2008 legislative session this spring.

Union bosses have even threatened to recruit and bankroll primary challengers to run against Democratic legislators who refuse to impose forced union dues and fees on Iowa workers.

However, the National Right to Work Committee and its grass-roots ally, the Des Moines-based Iowans for Right to Work Committee, have energized freedom-loving Iowans to fight back every step of the way.

Consequently, Big Labor's ability to steamroll through the House S.F.413, the forced-union-fee bill that was rubber-stamped by the state Senate last year, remains very much in doubt as this Newsletter goes to press in early March, just a few weeks before the Iowa Legislature adjourns for 2008.

Committee Staff on The Ground in Iowa

Not taking anything for granted, the National Committee legislative department, which has had field staff on the ground in Iowa since just before the Legislature reconvened in January, will keep the heat on in the state until the battle is truly over.

"Big Labor remains grimly determined to destroy Iowa's popular Right to Work law," explained National Committee Vice President Doug Stafford.

"Based on the latest and best information available to Committee legislative staff in the state, I still believe there may be a House floor showdown on S.F.413, ending in a vote, this spring.

"Furthermore, if there is a vote, I expect it to be close, regardless of whether the bill passes and heads to Big Labor Gov. Chet Culver's [D] desk for his signature, or is defeated."

If 2008 Money Grab Fails, Big Labor Intends To Hit Jackpot in 2009

"And even if it turns out the union bosses cannot realize their long-sought objective in 2008, they intend to grab enough additional House seats in this fall's elections to assure their victory in 2009," Mr. Stafford noted.



CREDIT: GOV. CHET CULVER

Big Labor Iowa Gov. Chet Culver will surely sign any forced-unionism bill that comes to his desk.

"That's why the National Committee, along with the Iowans for Right to Work Committee, has had to make a major commitment to ensure Iowa's Right to Work law is not gutted or weakened in any way.

"Our aim is first to block S.F.413 until the Legislature goes home in April, and then to highlight the Right to Work issue in both the primary and the general elections.

"That way, Iowa voters will know which of their legislative candidates will protect the Right to Work law, and which ones won't.

"We're confident that, if freedom-loving citizens across the state have

access to this information this year, Big Labor's campaign to complete its takeover of the state Legislature will fail."

Forced Union Fees Would Hurt Iowa's Economy


Mr. Stafford added that gutting Iowa's Right to Work law would harm both individual workers and the state's economy:

"Right to Work laws are strongly correlated with faster growth in personal incomes and jobs.

"Among Iowa and the seven states with which it borders, over the last five years for which data are available, every single Right to Work state enjoyed faster personal income growth than every single non-Right to Work state.

"Moreover, during the same five-year period, the aggregate private-sector job growth of Iowa and its neighboring Right to Work states was 3.8%, nearly five times as great as the total private-sector job growth in the non-Right to Work states that neighbor Iowa.

"To protect their cherished Right to Work law, freedom-loving Iowans must remain vigilant.

"I urge pro-Right to Work Iowans to keep fighting Big Labor tooth-and-nail through this year's primary and general elections, when citizens across the state will finally get to use the ballot box to let their legislators know how strongly they oppose forced unionism." 

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