

Call Him 'Brad "Nowhere to Flee" Sherman' *Launch of Right to Work Repeal Tips Big Labor's Hand For 2009*

Big Labor Democratic Congressman Brad Sherman thinks he knows how to stop employees and employers from fleeing forced-unionism states like his native California: Make sure there's nowhere in the country they can go where the Right to Work is protected.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, between April 1, 2000 and July 1, 2007, a net total of 1.2 million Californians left the Golden State.

And the reason there is a huge net outflow of people, disproportionately young employees and entrepreneurs, from California to other states isn't because Americans have suddenly grown tired of sunny days and moderate temperatures!

Rather, people are leaving California, over which forced dues-collecting government union bosses now wield more power than ever before, because they can find much better job opportunities and earn higher real incomes elsewhere—typically in a Right to Work state.

Right to Work laws now on the books in 22 states protect employees, both private- and public-sector, from being fired for refusal to pay dues or so-called "agency" fees to an unwanted union.

Overall, from 2000 to 2007, a net total of 4.19 million Americans moved from forced-unionism states to Right to Work states. That's on top of a net population transfer of nearly five million Americans to Right to Work states during the 1990's.

Mr. Sherman Would 'Level Playing Field' by Imposing Forced Dues Nationwide

Over the years, economists such as Dr. James Bennett of the Nobel Prize-winning Economics Department at George Mason University and Dr. Barry Poulson, past president of the North American Economics and Finance Association, have shown that living costs are lower, and real incomes are higher, in Right to Work states than in forced-union-dues states.

Both employees and businesses benefit, therefore, from being able to flee high-cost, high-tax, forced-unionism states like California.

But to Big Labor zealots like Mr. Sherman, the existence of a Right to



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Once they finish their education, droves of young Californians are fleeing to Right to Work states, where real incomes

are higher. Golden State Rep. Brad Sherman (center) wants to deny them the chance to flee.

Work alternative creates an "unlevel playing field" that must be flattened by a new federal law imposing forced union dues and fees nationwide.

On July 10, Mr. Sherman, together with five original cosponsors, introduced H.R.6477, legislation that would gut all 22 current state Right to Work laws by repealing Section 14(b) of the federal Taft-Hartley Act, which explicitly authorizes states to enact such laws.

If H.R.6477 were to become law, private-sector employees in Right to Work states would no longer be protected from being forced to pay union dues or fees as a job condition, though states would retain the ability to protect state and local government employees' Right to Work.

Full-Scale Big Labor Drive To Destroy 14(b) 'Likely' In an Obama Administration

National Right to Work Committee President Mark Mix noted that, while House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) is unlikely to seek any action on the Sherman 14(b) Repeal Bill this year, the fact that Mr. Sherman's union-boss

patrons have evidently encouraged him to introduce it now is portentous.

"Union strategists are brimming with confidence that, come next year, union-label Democratic presidential hopeful Barack Obama will be in the White House," he explained.

"And they are already laying the groundwork for the congressional legislative wish list they will be aiming to put on President Obama's desk.

"Therefore, the fact that a Big Labor yesman like Brad Sherman has introduced 14(b) repeal in the waning days of the 110th Congress indicates that a full-scale Big Labor drive to destroy 14(b) would be likely in an Obama Administration.

"Right to Work supporters everywhere should take this as a warning: If Barack Obama's current lead in the polls holds up, then they can expect to have to fight not just against familiar power grabs like the Kennedy 'card-check' bill in 2009 and 2010, but also for the very preservation of state Right to Work laws.

"Over the course of the next couple of years, pro-Right to Work Americans across the country could be in for the fight of their lives." 📧