

Iowa Candidates Receive Right to Work Surveys

Program Is Key For Efforts to Protect Iowa's Ban on Forced Dues

The grass-roots, Des Moines-based Iowans for Right to Work Committee, with National Right to Work Committee staffers' assistance and support, recently distributed special surveys to candidates running for state legislative offices in the November elections.

These state surveys urge all candidates to support employees' Right to Work without being forced to pay union dues or fees. They also urge candidates to support legislation that would revoke union officials' current monopoly-bargaining privileges over Iowa government employees.

The need for the Right to Work survey and citizen-mobilization program is particularly acute in the Hawkeye State.

Ignoring overwhelming constituent support for Iowa's 61-year-old Right to Work law, in March 2007 a 28-21 majority of state senators voted for S.F.413, a forced-union-fee bill.

Over the next 14 months, only a full-scale mobilization of freedom-loving Iowans by the National and Iowa Committees thwarted union-label House Speaker Pat Murphy (D-Dubuque) from ramming S.F.413 through his chamber.

Right to Work Members 'Need to Act Right Away'

"The union bosses remain grimly determined to destroy Iowa's popular Right to Work law," warned National Committee President Mark Mix. "And Big Labor Democratic Gov. Chet Culver has made it clear he would sign such legislation should it reach his desk.

"In this fall's elections, union strategists intend to grab enough additional House seats to ensure their victory in 2009.

"Committee members and their allies in Iowa need to act right away if the Committee is to continue succeeding in beating back schemes to gut the Hawkeye State's Right to Work law.

"In Iowa and other targeted states this month, Right to Work supporters are receiving special letters, state legislative and executive candidate rosters, and postcards urging them to contact the candidates.

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



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Early last year, National Committee President Mark Mix's strongly worded testimony before Iowa legislators helped

stall a Right to Work destruction scheme in the Hawkeye State. This fall, the Iowa fight goes on.

"We urge all members and supporters who are contacted regarding their state Survey 2008 to sign and send their postcards to their candidates right away. Or better yet, write personal letters and save your postcards to give to your pro-Right to Work friends, family members, and business associates."

Right to Work Critical To Prosperity of Iowa And Many Other States

Mr. Mix added that the precarious state of the national economy adds an extra impetus to Iowans' drive to protect their Right to Work law.

"Regardless of whether the national economy is good, bad, or indifferent, Right to Work states nationwide and in every region of the country consistently enjoy far superior business and job growth.

"For example, from 2002 to 2007, the aggregate real gross domestic product [GDP] by state of the five Right to Work states in the Midwest grew by 14.6%, well over twice as much as the economies of the seven non-Right to Work states in the region grew during that period.

"Iowa's real GDP grew by an even faster 15.3%, nearly three times as much as the Midwestern non-Right to Work states combined.

"Over the same period, private-sector job growth both in Iowa and in Midwestern Right to Work states as a group was roughly five times as great as job growth in Midwestern forced-unionism states."

Right to Work State Residents 'Would Be Crazy to Sit by Idly'

"At a time when the national economy appears to be dangerously close to tipping into a recession, Iowans and residents of other Right to Work states would be crazy to sit by idly while union lobbyists work to undermine or eliminate their important economic advantage," Mr. Mix continued.

"Of course, the primary reason for Americans to fight to protect existing state Right to Work laws and pass additional ones is that it's just plain wrong to force any worker to join or bankroll a union in order to hold a job and feed his or her family." 📌