

# 'Don't Promote Union Monopoly, Period'

## *Right to Work Leader Warns Against Phony Card-Check 'Compromises'*

The 2009-2010 Congress has barely begun.

But Big Labor President Barack Obama already appears to realize that union lobbyists may not quite be able over the next two years to muster the 60 U.S. Senate votes they will need to break a Right to Work filibuster and send the union hierarchy's #1 legislative priority to his desk for his signature.

In an interview with the *Washington Post* last month, Mr. Obama made it very clear that he supports the intent of the union bosses' pet project, U.S. Sen. Ted Kennedy's (D-Mass.) and Congressman George Miller's (D-Calif.) cynically mislabeled "Employee Free Choice Act."

And that intent, discussed in more detail in this month's Committee Newsletter cover story, is to help Big Labor force millions of additional workers, union members and nonmembers alike, to accept a union as their "exclusive" (monopoly) bargaining agent in their dealings with their employer.

A major provision in Kennedy/Miller aims to achieve this goal by effectively replacing secret-ballot elections in union organizing campaigns with so-called "card checks."

### **Barack Obama Suggests He Backs More 'Elegant' Ways of Dragging Workers Into Unions**

This provision is so flagrantly anti-worker that it has already become a rallying cry for freedom-loving citizens across America. A number of normally pro-forced unionism politicians are now wavering in their support for Kennedy/Miller largely because of this provision.

In his interview with the *Post*, Mr. Obama suggested a way out for the union bosses. On the one hand, he would not give any quarter to Americans who believe strongly that government-imposed monopoly bargaining is wrong or that extending its reach would be "damaging to the economy."

The President thus contemptuously dismissed the views of the vast majority of citizens nationwide.

According to a scientific poll conducted in 2006 by the respected Research 2000 firm, 81% of Americans who regularly vote in statewide elections believe workers in unionized



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**While Barack Obama is apparently concerned that "card-check" legislation as it stands may be too crude a power**

**grab to pass Congress, he's given an unabashed thumbs-up to expanding union officials' monopoly privileges.**

workplaces who don't want a union should "have the right to bargain for themselves."

Mr. Obama also ignored ample evidence, some of which is displayed in the chart on page two of this Newsletter, that corralling more workers into unions would in fact seriously damage the economy.

Nevertheless, Mr. Obama also suggested there may well be more "elegant" ways, as he put it, of expanding Big Labor's empire than the card-check scheme. And he implied he might prefer a bill more "elegant" than the Kennedy/Miller legislation that won majority support in both chambers of Congress in 2007.

### **Mark Mix: Right to Work Proponents Will Stick By Their Core Principles**

"Under American traditions of limited government, affiliation with a private organization is, the vast majority of the time, a purely personal decision," commented National Right to Work Committee President Mark Mix.

"It's not a collective decision. For example, the mere fact that most businesses in a town choose to join the local Chamber of Commerce doesn't

give the Chamber monopoly power to speak on business issues before the town council, denying businesses that don't join the right to speak for themselves.

"Unfortunately, current federal labor law doesn't grant to workers the same choice other Americans routinely expect, that is, the right to present their own views on matters that directly concern them, rather than have an agent they didn't choose speak for them.

"The National Right to Work Committee and its 2.2 million members are leading the opposition to the card-check scheme because it would help union bosses herd even more employees under union monopoly control.

"That fundamental flaw will not be fixed if union lobbyists, following Barack Obama's advice, find a more 'elegant' way to promote monopoly bargaining.

"Committee members understand that monopoly bargaining itself, and not the means by which union officials acquire that special privilege, is the real evil.

"Their message to Congress is, 'Don't promote monopoly bargaining, period.' Barack Obama and Big Labor Democrats in Congress should understand now that any phony card-check 'compromise' that promotes monopoly bargaining won't fly with Right to Work supporters across America." 📣