

December 6, 2006

Letters to the Editor
Charles City Press
801 Riverside Drive
Charles City, Iowa 50616
Via web email:

Dear Letters Editor:

Incoming Iowa Senate Majority Leader Mike Gronstal has mangled the facts about the so-called “agency” shop legislation he is backing.

In, “Iowa lawmakers discuss minimum wage, labor issues,” December 6, Gronstal would mislead your readers into falsely believing union nonmembers “hire” union bargaining agents the same way one would hire a lawyer. The fact is, when union officials seek and obtain the power to act as the “exclusive” (monopoly) bargaining agent for all the employees in a shop, union nonmembers are forced to accept “services” they don’t want and never asked for.

Enactment of agency-fee legislation would effectively repeal Iowa’s Right to Work law. Even in non-Right to Work states, it hasn’t been legal to force workers to become full union members since the U.S. Supreme Court handed down its *General Motors* decision in 1963. The special coercive power Organized Labor wields in non-Right to Work states is the power to collect forced union fees from nonmembers – and that’s the precise coercive power Iowa union bosses will get if an “agency”-fee scheme is enacted.

Respectfully,

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