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The Real Issue In Labor Battle

Investors Business Daily Online
3/07/11

Forced unionism is not a case of "majority rule." The fact is, when a majority of workers oppose unionization, the pro-union minority, whether they constitute 49% or 1% of the work force, retain the freedom to join and pay dues to a union. But workers who oppose unionization are, whenever they are in the minority, denied freedom of choice about which private organizations they financially support.

Andy Stone: A Stone's Throw

The Aspen Times ONLINE
3/09/11

Am I making this up? Well, here's an item by Stephen Moore of the Wall Street Journal. Moore begins by quoting Mark Mix of the National Right to Work Foundation (a major anti-union organization), who said, "Republicans can't turn back in Wisconsin. This will only embolden the unions." Then Mr. Moore adds his own comments, "It's foolish to believe that backing down will satisfy the unions. If history is any guide, more than 90 percent of union money will be used to defeat Republicans, no matter what happens."

Right-to-Work Bill Introduced in Senate As House Democrats Slam Anti-Labor Moves

Daily Labor Report Online
3/08/11

Sen. Jim DeMint (R-S.C.) introduced the National Right to Work Act, which he said aims to reduce workplace discrimination by protecting the free choice of individuals to form, join, or assist labor organizations, or to refrain from such activities.

Unions Claim House Republican Support To Stop Repeal of NMB Rule on Elections

Daily Labor Report Online
3/08/11

Unions actively are seeking additional Republican support in their fight to block legislation in the House that would repeal the National Mediation Board's new rule for representation elections, a leading airline union official said March 8.

When Party Balks, NLRB Must Ask Court To Enforce Subpoena, Fourth Circuit Rules

Daily Labor Report Online
3/08/11

The case began with an unfair labor practices charge against Interbake Foods, a producer of food products including Girl Scouts cookies, after two unsuccessful attempts to unionize by the Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers at the company's Front Royal, Va., facility.

Hyatt Files NLRB Election Petitions For Hotel Employees at Four Properties

Daily Labor Report Online
3/08/11

In an unusual move, officials of the Hyatt Regency Indianapolis, the Hyatt Regency Long Beach, the Hyatt Fisherman's Wharf in San Francisco, and the Hyatt Regency Santa Clara are seeking NLRB-supervised elections at the three hotels in California and one in Indiana to determine by secret ballot whether employees want representation by UNITE HERE.

Laborers' Reaffiliation With AFL-CIO in 2010 Offset Member Losses at Other Affiliates

Daily Labor Report Online
3/07/11

The membership of the AFL-CIO grew slightly in 2010, with the reaffiliation of the Laborers' International Union offsetting member losses at other affiliated unions, according to the federation's membership report prepared for the AFL-CIO Executive Council's winter meeting March 1-2.

House Committee Probes NLRB Advertising, Calling Google Text 'Unquestionably Biased'

Daily Labor Report Online
3/07/11

The chairman of the House Education and the Workforce Committee, Rep. John Kline (R-Minn.), sent a March 4 letter to National Labor Relations Board Chairman Wilma B. Liebman requesting documentation related to the NLRB's "advertising strategy and goals," including disbursement records he said were needed to "better evaluate" possible use of taxpayer funds for advertising.

Federal Court Rules CNH America Can't Change Benefits Without UAW's OK

Daily Labor Report Online

3/07/11

CNH America LLC, as the successor to Case Corp., cannot alter its retirees' health benefits unless the United Auto Workers agrees to the changes through collective bargaining, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan ruled March 3 (Reese v. CNH Global N.V., E.D. Mich., No. 04-70592, 3/3/11).

Wisconsin Gov. Walker Tries to Drive Wedge Between Senate Democrats and Their Leader

Daily Labor Report Online
3/07/11

Walker used a press conference to chastise Miller for obstructing progress on an informal agreement that would have permitted the entire Senate Democratic caucus to return to the state capitol in Madison from self-imposed exile in Illinois

Idaho Governor Signs Bill Rejecting PLAs, Market Recovery, Job Subsidies

Daily Labor Report Online
3/08/11

Idaho Gov. C.L. “Butch” Otter (R) signed March 3 two measures opposed by union contractors and construction workers, including one that forbids state and local governments from requiring contractors to use project labor agreements in public works construction projects.

New York Unions, Community Organizations Join Forces on Drive to Maintain Wealth Tax

Daily Labor Report Online
3/08/11

NEW YORK—Some of New York's leading unions have joined with community groups March 8 in launching a “Strong Economy for All” coalition to oppose a state budget plan to let an income tax surcharge on the wealthy expire while public employees and social programs face cuts.