



Daily Caller Online

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Critics say NLRB pursuing card check outside legislative process

Opponents denounced the idea as card check by other means. National Right to Work Foundation President Mark Mix warned, “[M]uch like card check organizing, electronic voting leaves the door open to coercion and identity theft, and will be used by aggressive union organizers to impose forced unionism on more workers.”

CPS employees sue union, district

Cincinatti.com

1/20/11

The suit doesn't challenge the union's right to withdraw money. But it does allege that the union failed to provide a breakdown of how the dues are being spent, as required under law. That makes the withdrawals illegal, according to the suit.

The workers are being represented by the non-profit National Right To Work Legal Defense Foundation and the local law office Keating Muething & Klekamp.

Bill would prohibit negotiations between school boards and teachers' unions

The Tennessean Online

1/21/11

Filed Jan. 18 by State Rep. Debra Young Maggart, R-Hendersonville, the bill would prohibit any local board of education from negotiating with a professional employees' organization or teachers' union about pay, benefits or student discipline procedures.

Unions Sue South Carolina Governor, Labor Agency Head, Over Anti-Union Stance

Daily Labor Report Online

1/20/11

The International Association of Machinists and the South Carolina AFL-CIO Jan. 21 filed a [lawsuit](#) in federal court alleging that Gov. Nikki Haley (R) is violating federal labor law by vowing to use state resources to defeat union organizing efforts (*Int'l Ass'n*

of Machinists & Aerospace Workers v. Haley D.S.C., No. 2:11-cv00153-CWH, *complaint filed* 1/21/11).

Solomon Will Recommend 'New Framework' For NLRB Deferral to Arbitration Procedures

Daily Labor Report Online
1/20/11

In a memorandum to the board's regional offices (Memorandum GC 11-05), Solomon said that after a review of deferral cases under the NLRA, he concluded that in cases brought under Section 8(a)(1) and 8(a)(3) of the act, "the Board should no longer defer to an arbitral resolution unless it is shown that the statutory rights have adequately been considered by the arbitrator."

Obama Creates New Jobs Council To Put U.S. Economy Into 'Overdrive'

Daily Labor Report Online
1/20/11

President Obama Jan. 21 said he is creating a new Council on Jobs and Competitiveness headed by Jeffrey Immelt, chairman and chief executive officer of GE, with the goal of speeding up the nation's economic recovery.

But Scott Paul, executive director of the Alliance for American Manufacturing, a labor-backed advocacy organization, called Immelt a poor choice. "There is no swifter way to alienate working class voters than to name an outsourcing CEO to lead your jobs strategy," he said in a statement.

Massive FBI Mafia bust: Organized crime still has firm grip on unions, even at Ground Zero

New York Daily News Online
1/21/11

In 2007 - after escaping jail for extortion by convincing a judge he had only two years to live - Scopo learned that a Ground Zero jobsite foreman was complaining about being under mob control.

Scopo took the foreman for a sitdown with Colombo crime family captain Dino Calabro - bringing along his son, also named Ralph.

He later told Calabro that Little Ralphie was there in case the reform-minded foreman "needed to be physically assaulted," the Laborers International Union of North America charged after taking over the corrupt local last December.

Watch out! ACORN is back -- in all but its name

New York Post Online
1/24/11

Backed by hundreds of thousands of dollars in union donations, New York Communities for Change -- a rebranded version of the controversial organization that closed up shop amid several scandals -- is acting again as labor's attack dog on controversial issues.

Obama Uses Normally Neutral Board to Pay Back Unions

The Daily Caller Online
1/23/11

Former Department of Labor Solicitor Greg Jacob told The Daily Caller these unionization efforts are a misuse of the NLRB's power, especially because there is no legal basis whatsoever for what that board is trying to do.

Airport Screener Election Tentatively Set For March 9 Through April 19, Union Says

Daily Labor Report Online
1/20/11

According to NTEU, balloting for the representation election—which the union said will be the largest ever in the federal sector—is to be conducted online and through the use of a toll-free telephone number, with the Federal Labor Relations Authority tentatively scheduled to count the votes April 20.

New Faces Appear at Bargaining Table

Wall Street Journal Online
1/22/11

In Cash-Strapped States, Government Managers Form Unions; Organized Labor's Share of Overall Work Force Falls Again .

Even as organized labor's share of America's public and private work force continued to slide last year, unions appeared to be growing in one place, among government managers and high-paid workers.

In Seattle, prosecutors and supervisors at the city's electric utility both have formed collective bargaining units in the past year, while in central Minnesota, managers at a regional library system have created its first union of any kind. In Sacramento County, Calif., a group that includes management engineers and lawyers nine months ago voted to become a collective bargaining unit for the first time.

State might limit public unions

Legislators study measure to end collective bargaining for teachers, public workers
Argus.Leader.com
1/23/11

Republican state lawmakers soon might introduce legislation that would ban local governments from negotiating collective bargaining agreements, a move that would effectively neutralize the unions that represent South Dakota's teachers and other public-sector employees.

If such legislation would pass, union officials no longer would be able to negotiate contracts on behalf of their members. Republicans say they are considering the measure because unions in other parts of the country have driven up pension costs and created unsustainable salaries. GOP leaders say they don't want that to happen in South Dakota.

NLRB Sets Hearing on NUHW Objections To Kaiser Election Among 45,000 Employees

Daily Labor Report Online
1/20/11

Last month, an NLRB administrative law judge ruled that Southern California Permanente Medical Group and Kaiser Foundation Hospitals violated the National Labor Relations Act by withholding the scheduled wage increase and making unilateral changes in worker benefits (239 DLR AA-1, 12/14/10). Several days later, a federal district court granted an NLRB request for a Section 10(j) injunction and ordered the two Kaiser entities to grant the employees prospectively the withheld wage increase and to rescind the other unilateral contract changes they made (243 DLR A-1, 12/20/10).

Postal Service Eyes Closing Thousands of Post Offices

Wall Street Journal Online
1/24/11

Now, with the red ink showing no sign of stopping, the postal service is hoping to ramp up a cost-cutting program that is already eliciting yelps of pain around the country. Beginning in March, the agency will start the process of closing as many as 2,000 post offices, on top of the 491 it said it would close starting at the end of last year. In addition, it is reviewing another 16,000—half of the nation's existing post offices—that are

operating at a deficit, and lobbying Congress to allow it to change the law so it can close the most unprofitable among them. The law currently allows the postal service to close post offices only, for maintenance problems, lease expirations or other reasons that don't include profitability.

Health Clash Senate Bound

Wall Street Journal Online
1/24/11

Both sides agreed Republicans have the leverage to bring such a bill to a vote using one of several procedural tactics, including inserting it as an amendment to another piece of legislation.

The UAW's Next Act

Saved by Washington, the union wants to write its own labor laws
Wall Street Journal Online
1/24/11

Last but not least audaciously, Mr. King sneaks in unionization by "card check." Not even the last Congress's Democratic supermajority passed this Big Labor priority. But the UAW principles commit companies to unionize if a majority of workers sign union cards, forgoing a secret ballot election. All the UAW would have to do to allow card check is claim a "history of anti-union activities" at the target company. It would also oblige arbitration on a first labor contract, if six months after a union is formed the two sides can't agree. This was also part of the card check bill that died quietly last year.

Growing Criticism of Labor Leader Who Doubled His Salary

New York Times Online
1/19/11

Mr. Ahern, 57, who had been the council's executive vice president, was seen as a welcome presence after the council's former president, Brian McLaughlin, was convicted of embezzling more than \$2 million and sentenced to 10 years in prison. But union leaders and supporters of organized labor have recently voiced disappointment over the performance of the council, an umbrella organization representing more than one million New York union members.