



### **Missouri revisits 'right to work'**

Sltoday.com

2/09/2011

The National Right to Work Committee's director of legislation, Greg Mourad, said that while wages may be lower in right-to-work states, family income is higher when those states' lower cost of living is taken into account.

### **GOP Senators Oppose Becker Renomination, Citing NLRB Actions Since His Appointment**

Daily Labor Report Online

2/07/2011

All 47 Republicans in the U.S. Senate submitted a letter to President Obama objecting to his renomination of attorney Craig Becker to fill the remainder of a five-year term as a board member ending Dec. 16, 2014, and asking Obama to "respect the will of the Senate" by withdrawing the nomination.

### **The DNC's 2012 convention: The devil's always in the details**

RedState.com

2/02/2011

For one week of Democrat debauchery, North Carolina may end up paying dearly. The good citizens of Charlotte, NC are probably still feeling euphoric over besting Cleveland, Minneapolis and St Louis as the chosen city for the 2012 DNC Convention. However, as the giddiness subsides and people begin to take stock of what they just bit off, it may serve them well to check the fine print of the contract(s) they've obligated themselves to. If they do, they may find that being a host isn't always what it's cracked up to be, especially if your guests turn around and leave your house a mess.

What many North Carolinians are about to find out real soon is this: If you want to play with the Chicago Democrats, y'all are going to have to play by their rules and be expected to pay a hefty price for them too. This includes their union rules.

## **UAW's King Says Talks With 'Transplants' Continuing, With Support From Other Unions**

Daily Labor Report Online  
2/07/2011

“We're working with unions around the world who all support workers' rights to organize, so we feel very upbeat about the prospect of working together with the companies,” King told reporters after touring a General Motors Co. plant with Labor Secretary Hilda Solis and other officials.

## **Ex-Official of Laborers Union Sentenced To Prison for Bypassing Out-of-Work List**

Daily Labor Report Online  
2/8/2011

A former official of Laborers' International Union Local 1153 based in Essex County, N.J., was sentenced Feb. 7 in federal court in Newark, N.J., to 33 months in prison for using his union position to get jobs for “friends and criminal associates” of a reputed member of the Gambino crime family (United States v. Merola, D.N.J., No. 08-cr-327-SRC, sentencing 2/7/2011).

## **Did TSA Head Break Neutrality Obligation by Permitting Prospective Bargaining?**

Fed Smith Online  
2/07/2011

So What's the Problem?

In every recognition election, such as the one currently involving TSA, the choice of “No Union” must appear on the ballot. By announcing this new policy and letting employees know that they would have increased rights by voting in a union, has TSA interfered with the election and committed a violation of the law?

It is pretty easy to see that when management is unfriendly to a union and broadcasts that position, the FLRA would certainly find a violation. But when the Agency goes out of its way to assure that a union will win, isn't that the same thing? You decide.

## **GM Workers to Get Cut of Profits**

Wall Street Journal Online  
2/08/2011

GM in the next week is expected to disclose the size of profit-sharing checks that go to 45,000 workers as part of the auto maker's contract with the United Auto Workers union. The figures are still being finalized, the people familiar with the matter said.

## **States may find targeting workers isn't easy**

Wall Street Journal Online  
2/08/2011

...state officials trying to close crippling budget deficits may find it difficult, perhaps impossible, to translate their words into action.

Many will find that contracts and state law limit their power to lay off public employees. Case law, and in some cases state constitutions, restrict what can be done to pensions. Efforts to impose furloughs are likely to trigger court battles.

## **Strikes, Lockouts Remained Near Record Lows in 2010**

Wall Street Journal Online  
2/08/2011

The diminishing pool of organized workers also likely has something to do with what the BLS noted is a long decline in the trend for strikes and lockouts. "From 2001-2010, there were approximately 17 major work stoppages on average per year, compared with 34 per year from 1991-2000, 69 from 1981-1990, and 269 from 1971-1980."

## **Yes, They're Overpaid**

Weekly Standard Online  
2/14/2011

"Scapegoating," claimed the American Federation of Government Employees. "Punishment," said the Federal Managers Association. "Transparently cynical," declared Paul Krugman. President Obama's late November announcement of a two-year pay freeze for federal workers has been poorly received by unions and left-wing activists, who see it as the end result of a year-long campaign to reduce federal salaries. Taxpayers should hope it is just the beginning. Fundamental reform of federal pay would save tens of billions of dollars annually, and it would be a strong indication that lawmakers are serious about reducing long-term deficits in all parts of the budget.

## **Republicans likely to push for budget cuts to NLRB soon**

Daily Caller Online  
2/08/2011

House Education and Workforce Committee Chairman John Kline, Minnesota Republican, is particularly concerned with some of the NLRB's recent pro-union agenda, The Daily Caller has learned, and will take that into special consideration when it comes to what's going to get cut from the budget in the near future.

## **Idaho lawmakers target union leverage with bills**

Bloomberg News Online  
2/07/2011

Idaho marked its 25th year as a right-to-work state in 2010, a status that means employees can't be required to join unions or pay dues as a condition of employment. Another bill targeting unions seeks to forbid them from using dues to subsidize members' wages to help union shop contractors win projects. These subsidies, known as job targeting programs, can lower a union contractor's overall costs and allow them to submit more competitive bids.

## **Blaska's Blog: R.I.P. Wisconsin government employee unions**

The Daily Page Online, Madison, WI  
2/09/2011

Friday is when Gov. Scott Walker lowers the boom on government employees unions. As he has promised.