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## **GM Hourly Workers to Receive Up to \$4,000 in Profit-Sharing Bonuses**

Daily Labor Report Online  
2/14/2011

GM said the profit-sharing payout for hourly employees is about twice the largest amount in company history of \$1,775 in 1999. “This payout is a good example of how we are sharing in the success of the new GM with GM employees,” the company said in a statement.

## **Specialty Contractors Oppose Repealing Davis-Bacon, but Seek Push on Taxes, Safety**

Daily Labor Report Online  
2/14/2011

The coalition, which is comprised of mostly union employers, includes the National Electrical Contractors Association, the Finishing Contractors Association, the International Council of Employers of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers, the Mechanical Contractors Association of America, the Sheet Metal and Air Conditioning Contractors’ National Association, and the Association of Union Constructors.

## **Catholic Labor Network Meeting Discusses If Hospitals Are Respecting Workers’ Rights**

Daily Labor Report Online  
2/14/2011

In the opening session, Gerald Shea, an assistant to the president of the AFL-CIO, discussed the document, “A Fair and Just Workplace: Principles and Practices for Catholic Health Care,” and its status.

## **GOP Presses Biggest-Ever Budget Cuts**

Wall Street Journal Online  
2/16/2011

In early action on the bill, which would cut domestic programs by \$61 billion this year, Republicans showed little appetite for making cuts in the Pentagon. The House rejected four amendments to cut defense programs, including one small cut to get rid of some Pentagon advisory commissions.

## **State Plans Anger Unions**

Wall Street Journal Online  
2/16/2011

On Monday, presidents of more than a dozen of the nation's biggest unions met to strategize, and pledged more than \$25 million to counter efforts to scale back bargaining rights that in many cases would give employees the option of not belonging to a union or paying dues, according to a union official familiar with the matter.

## **Unions fight back**

Green Bay Press Gazette Online  
2/16/2011

Most controversial are related proposals to limit collective bargaining rights for local and state employees and to make Wisconsin a so-called "right to work" state, repealing requirements that employees in union shops must join the union or pay the equivalent of union dues.

## **Anti-Austerity Alliance Wins in Illinois**

inthesetimes.com  
2/16/2011

In a broadside attack on unions and worker rights, politicians are exploiting the current crisis to promote restrictions on collective action by both public- and private-sector workers. Proposed restrictions include new right-to-work laws; elimination of public workers' rights to unionize or strike; rollback of state minimum wages; and prohibiting union recognition through majority sign-up.

Unions are resisting these assaults with public education campaigns that rebut the misconception that public workers are overpaid and have unaffordable pensions, and that shift blame for the crisis from workers back to Wall Street. Paul Booth, assistant to the president at AFSCME (American Federation of State, County and Municipal Workers), says that his union is also "appealing to rank and file members of organized labor to take matters in their own hands."

## **Union bargaining 'out of control,' say supporters of reform**

Dayton Daily News Online  
2/16/2011

COLUMBUS — Supporters of a plan to make sweeping changes to Ohio's collective bargaining laws had their first chance to make a case to lawmakers on Tuesday to rein in public sector labor costs that they say "spiral out of control."

## **Unfunded Muni Health costs threaten to croak local budgets**

Boston Herald Online  
2/16/2011

Municipal officials in the state's 50 largest cities and towns are on the hook for \$20 billion in retiree health care benefits and have set aside almost nothing to pay those obligations, according to a new report touted as the first-ever analysis of municipal retiree health care liabilities.

## **NH House passes right-to-work law**

nashautelegraph.com  
2/16/2011

The 221-131 vote sends the controversial bill (HB 474) to the state Senate without the two-thirds super majority that would be needed to overcome a potential veto from Gov. John Lynch, who strongly opposes it.

## **Big Labor-instigated sick-out is real deal: Teachers Who Break Your Heart**

Nationalreview.com  
2/16/2011

This morning, I received a letter from one of our readers, a letter that could break your heart for the thousandth time concerning what teachers have become in the United States. Teachers used to be something like a holy caste, practically the most honorable among us. I come from a family of teachers. Everyone thought of it as a noble calling. Teachers earned too little, but that was remedied, over time.

Then everything went screwy. Teachers were not just well paid. ("Best part-time job in America," Lee Iacocca once quipped, to the howls of many.) They were some of the most petulant, greediest, nastiest unionists around.

Anyway, that letter:

## **Mo. Senate Panel Advances 'Right To Work' Bill**

KTTS 94.7 fm Online  
2/16/2011

A Missouri Senate panel has advanced legislation that would prevent people from having to pay union fees as a condition of employment. The legislation cleared the Senate General Laws Committee on a party-line vote Tuesday, with Republicans backing it and Democrats it opposing it. The vote means the bill can now move to the full Senate for debate.

## **National Labor Relations Board To decide whether labor organizers can use micro union targets**

Daily Caller Online  
2/16/2011

The National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), the mediation agency charged with interpreting and maintaining the fairness of unionizing efforts nationwide, will soon decide whether or not labor unions will be allowed to break off different sections of workforces into small groups to organize five or 10 workers at a time instead of the whole workplace at once – or organize using “micro unions.”