



AFL-CIO supports dismantling of NFL players' union — at least temporarily

Daily Caller Online
2/28/11

“It certainly is hypocritical how hard they fight against regular employees having an up or down vote on getting rid of their union and at the same time they’ve encouraged it in this one instance,” Patrick Semmens of the National Right to Work Legal Defense Foundation told TheDC. “There aren’t really any principles behind what organized labor’s trying to do.”

Stupid lie of the week: Fox News people are hypocritical AFTRA members!

Michelle Malkin Online
2/25/11

This moronic attack started percolating on the blogs and Twitter over the past week:

Fox News hosts and contributors including Sean Hannity, Glenn Beck, Sarah Palin, yours truly, and others are greedy, union-bashing hypocrites who are card-carrying members of AFTRA.

It took seven years of litigation, but Mr. Buckley and Mr. Evans stood fast to their beliefs. With the able assistance of the National Right to Work Legal Defense Foundation, they succeeded in establishing the principle that formal union membership cannot be a prerequisite for expressing your views on the public airwaves.

“Learn something,” indeed.

Money, Policy Entangled in Wisconsin Labor Dispute

Education Week Online
2/25/11

Greg W. Mourad, the director of legislation for the National Right to Work Committee, a Springfield, Va.-based organization that supports Gov. Walker’s proposal, said taxpayer frustration over government spending would continue to put pressure on state officials to curb collective bargaining rights.

“People understand that during these tough economic times, the public purse can’t be as generous as it has in the past,” Mr. Mourad said. At the same time, he said, even if such

legislation in Wisconsin and other states is approved, unions will still wield considerable power, particularly in political campaigns.

“All the other things they do now, they will still be able to do,” he said.

John Wilson, the executive director of the National Education Association, said the Wisconsin furor had galvanized members of his organization and unified labor groups more broadly.

“Our members are absolutely furious,” he said. “They see this as a suppression of their voice.”

LePage plans to push right-to-work law in Maine

Politico.com

2/26/11

Maine Gov. Paul LePage said Saturday he would push forcefully ahead with right-to-work legislation in his state, even if it means a Wisconsin-style fight with unions.

In an interview at the National Governors Association, the Republican praised Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker and couched his own proposal in the language of liberty loved by tea partiers.

LePage was unsure about the feasibility of passing right-to-work legislation.

"You know, it's going to be a battle," he said. "The people that elected me want jobs. They don't care if they're union jobs or non-union jobs. They just want a paycheck."

LePage said people who want to join unions have that right, but stressed that no one should be forced into the decision.

Unions vs. the Right to Work

Wall street Journal Online

2/28/11

Collective bargaining on a broad scale is more similar to an antitrust violation than to a civil liberty..

Labor unions like to portray collective bargaining as a basic civil liberty, akin to the freedoms of speech, press, assembly and religion. For a teachers union, collective bargaining means that suppliers of teacher services to all public school systems in a state—or even across states—can collude with regard to acceptable wages, benefits and working conditions. An analogy for business would be for all providers of airline transportation to assemble to fix ticket prices, capacity and so on. From this perspective,

collective bargaining on a broad scale is more similar to an antitrust violation than to a civil liberty.

How to Live Freer in New Hampshire

Wall Street Journal
2/27/11

With all eyes on Wisconsin this past week, overlooked has been the conservative policy changes that are moving ahead in New Hampshire. In recent days the New Hampshire House, where the GOP controls nearly three-quarters of the 400 seats, passed a bill to repeal the state cap-and-trade law that imposes a tax on energy use and a bill to make New Hampshire a right-to-work state.

Wisconsin Protesters Defy Order to Leave

Wall Street Journal Online
2/28/11

Thousands of protesters left the state capitol Sunday, but hundreds remained inside, defying an order by state officials to end nearly two weeks of raucous occupation over a bill that would strip many unionized state workers of collective-bargaining rights.

Why Public Unions Are No Bargain

Wall Street Journal Online
2/28/11

Gigot: So, you wrote this week for us that public-sector unions have become the single biggest lobby for tax increases at the state level. Explain that.

Malanga: Where they succeed in raising taxes, by I think \$727 million, and they put millions--they basically funded a \$6 million campaign, mostly public-sector workers. Also, in Washington state they didn't succeed, but there was this big battle over the income tax in Washington state, in which everybody--

Labor Shifts Resources to the States

Roll Call Online
2/28/11

“We are triaging the battle and making sure we are shifting resources,” said Harold Schaitberger, president of the International Association of Firefighters. “We have got to be nimble. We have pivoted away from a central federal effort and are putting considerable resources into the field. That’s where the threats are.”

Right to freeloader (for a few), higher taxes (for All)

SLtoday.com
2/25/11

As corporate-funded, out-of-state lobbyists and consultants descended on Jefferson City on February 8th (Missouri revisits right to work) for the initial hearing on the Senate Right-to-Work bill (SB 1) they were anxious to distract legislators from the affect of this legislation on most Missourians.

Unions Sue Los Angeles Over Refusal To Arbitrate Mandatory Furlough Grievances

Daily Labor Report Online
2/25/11

Unions representing thousands of city employees have [sued](#) Los Angeles, seeking court orders to compel the city to participate in arbitration of union grievances alleging that Los Angeles's 2010 implementation of mandatory furloughs for thousands of workers violated collective bargaining agreements (Int'l Union of Operating Eng'rs v. City of Los Angeles, Cal. Super. Ct., No. BS130737, filed 2/23/11; Service Emps. Int'l Union v. City of Los Angeles, Cal. Super. Ct., No. BS130688, filed 2/23/11).

Ohio Panel Weighing Revisions to Measure Curbing Public Worker's Bargaining Rights

Daily Labor Report Online
2/25/11

After a massive demonstration at the Ohio Statehouse in opposition to [S.B. 5](#)—which would weaken collective bargaining rights for about 350,000 public employees—Republican lawmakers Feb. 25 said amendments are under review that would allow state workers to negotiate wages but would outlaw strikes by any public workers.

Wisconsin's Collective Bargaining Bill Goes To Senate After Assembly's 51-17 Approval

Daily Labor Report Online
2/25/11

Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker's (R) controversial budget adjustment and labor overhaul bill took another step toward enactment Feb. 25, when Republicans in the State Assembly on that date powered the measure through the chamber over chants of “shame, shame, shame” by Democratic lawmakers.