



Thom Loverro: NFL union out of tune

Washington Examiner Online

3/22/2011

The NFL players have voted to decertify their union. I wonder if they followed the rules for decertification spelled out on the National Right to Work Legal Defense Foundation? An organization that states, in its guide to decertification, "Most employees prefer a workplace where they are free to discuss their terms and conditions of employment directly with the employer, without intervention by a third-party."

Boycott reaches 30 days for Ind. House Democrats

Bloomberg Business Week

3/23/2011

The impasse was first sparked by a so-called "right-to-work" bill that Republican Gov. Mitch Daniels had warned could derail other proposals, but that bill is now dead. The National Right to Work Committee and its Indiana affiliate announced Tuesday a newspaper ad campaign urging Daniels and Republicans to revive the issue. Democrats said they trust Republicans who have assured them the issue will not be resurrected, but said the campaign reflects mounting pressure from the right.

Collective bargaining legislation advances in Tennessee House

NWTN

3/23/2011

NASHVILLE (AP) — A Republican-supported proposal to restrict the collective bargaining rights of Tennessee teachers advanced in the House on Tuesday despite laments from Democrats and educators that they were denied much input.

The measure, sponsored by House Republican Caucus Chairwoman Debra Maggart of Hendersonville, was approved by the House Education Committee 12-6 on Tuesday and now goes to the House Finance Committee.

The proposal is different from companion legislation in the Senate, which seeks to eliminate collective bargaining altogether. That version awaits the scheduling of a vote on the Senate floor.

Classy: Unions Use Images of Oklahoma City Bombing to Attack Collective Bargaining Bill...

Weasel Zippers Online
3/23/2011

(NewsOK) — A state senator today blasted a firefighter union television advertisement as “horrific and tasteless” for using images of the Oklahoma City bombing to make a case against his bill.

The advertisement by the International Association of Firefighters began airing today.

Supporters of public workers mobilize in city

Seacoast.com
Portsmouth, NH
3/23 2011

PORTSMOUTH — If Wisconsin-like union protests start cropping up more often on the Seacoast, perhaps the seeds of discontent were sown Tuesday night during a workers rights forum at the city library.

"The fight back beginning in Wisconsin is happening here now," said Todd Ricker of the State Employees Association, before passing around a sign-up sheet for a day of activism planned for Saturday.

Congress, White House Urged to Bolster Labor Protections in Wake of State Actions

Daily Labor Report Online
3/23/2011

Congress and the administration should take steps in the next 100 days to “preserve, protect, and bolster” U.S. labor laws, a coalition of labor, consumer, and environmental groups said March 21.

Bargaining Processes Need to Be Updated To Address Public Sector Issues, Report Says

Daily Labor Report Online
3/23/2011

The collective bargaining process can be used to address numerous problems facing state and local governments, including fiscal challenges, education overhaul, rising health care costs, and pension underfunding, according to a March 16 report released by the Champaign, Ill.-based Employment Policy Research Network.

Are Union-bought democrats Rushing to the aid of the union-controlled nlr?

Texasinsider.org
3/23/2011

Despite the fact that the NLRB's caseload is considerably less than it was ten years ago, the AFL-CIO, as well as the union zealots who serve on the NLRB, and Democrat George Miller are apoplectic over the proposed cuts—presumably because the cuts throw a monkey wrench into their plans

Card Check is Dead, But Labor's Anti-Democratic Plans Live On

ShopFloor.org
3/23/2011

Mickey Kaus, the reform-minded blogger now at The Daily Caller, takes note of the comments of Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-OH) conceding the legislative death of the Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA). According to a report in The Hill, Brown told WVIZ radio, "It's not going to happen now."

To which Kaus responds with cynicism disguised by yuck yuck. From "Why K Street Hates Sherrod Brown":

Why Walker took on unions' power

Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel Online
3/23/ 2011

"Why is Scott Walker so afraid of collective bargaining?" asks Christian Schneider in the new edition of Wisconsin Interest. The answer, he writes, "can be found in the rise of the state's teachers unions."

Actually, it can be found in the chart at that link and reproduced here with permission:

Detroit's Population Crashes

Wall Street Journal Online
3/22/2011

The flight of middle-class African-Americans to the suburbs fueled an exodus that cut Detroit's population 25% in the past decade to 713,777, according to Census Bureau data released Tuesday. That's the city's lowest population level since the 1910 census, when automobile mass production was making Detroit Detroit.

Public Employees Rush to Retire

Wall Street Journal Online
3/23/2011

Among Wisconsin public employees filing for retirement are Mary and Len Herricks, both teachers in Oshkosh. They put in their papers in mid-March after lawmakers voted to rein in most public-employee collective-bargaining rights.

"Not only am I losing salary and benefits and facing a bigger work load, but now they are taking away my rights," says Ms. Herricks, a 56-year-old elementary school teacher. A teacher for 35 years who earns in the high 50s, Ms Herricks can now retire and collect nearly her former salary. "Retirement was supposed to be something happy. I'm so sad."

Ohio's Governor Moves Against Unions

Wall Street Journal
3/24/2011

Under the Ohio bill, government workers can only bargain for pay increases based on merit and performance, not years of service. Wisconsin's law allows workers to negotiate wage increases on seniority, but it limits increases to inflation. Anything more would require voter approval.

Ohio would limit bargaining on health insurance and reduce sick leave and holidays to what's allowed for nonunion government employees. Wisconsin has no similar provision.

NLRB Regional Offices Dismiss Petitions For Union Election Filed by Hyatt Hotels

Daily Labor Report Online
3/24/2011

In UNITE HERE's organizing campaigns among employees at the four hotels, the union has sought organizing neutrality agreements and card check, but Hyatt has refused, the union said (138 DLR A-13, 7/20/10). UNITE HERE, however, has not sought recognition at the hotels through secret-ballot elections.

USPS to Cut 7,500 Nonunion Positions; \$20,000 Buyouts Available, Donahoe Says

Daily Labor Report Online
3/24/2011

The U.S. Postal Service intends to eliminate approximately 7,500 nonunion administrative and executive positions through an "organizational redesign" that will include buyouts of up to \$20,000 for eligible employees, Postmaster General Patrick R. Donahoe announced March 24.

Resolution Sets UAW Bargaining Goals: ‘Organize, Build Power, Win Justice’

Daily Labor Report Online
3/24/2011

DETROIT—Delegates at the United Auto Workers' special convention on collective bargaining March 24 approved a broad resolution to focus on organizing, building power, and achieving “justice” for all workers when negotiating collective bargaining agreements.

New union votes may not meet deadline

Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel
3/23/2011

Madison — A state labor commission likely won't be able to meet a May 1 deadline to finish elections deciding the future of unions for some 30,000 state employees.

The Battle Moves to the States

American Spectator Online
3/23/2011

Labor laws written to force millions of Americans to pay union dues to labor union bosses are another obstacle that Republican governors and legislatures could undo. States like Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana could enact right-to-work laws making union membership voluntary, or "paycheck protection" laws that stop unions from taking your union dues and spending them on politics without your express consent.