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Hyundai Velosters on Hold as Workers Protest

Wall Street Journal Online

3/25/2011

But other than 52 models produced for pre-sale events, not a single one has rolled out of the auto maker's assembly lines in its No. 1 plant in Ulsan. Some 3,000 unionized workers have kept the production lines from making the cars.

The workers are protesting recent moves by Hyundai to relocate some of them to four other Ulsan plants that need more employees. Automation at the No. 1 plant has reduced the need for staff there.

Wisconsin's Battle Supreme

Wall Street Journal Online

3/25/2011

Wisconsin Democrats and unions are still seething over their failure to thwart Governor Scott Walker's government union reforms. Now they're trying to spin their rage into gold by aiming it at the state Supreme Court election on April 5. If they defeat David Prosser's re-election bid, labor leaders and their Democratic allies hope a newly activist court will be their proxy in the fight against Mr. Walker's policies.

Los Angeles, Unions Reach Deal

Wall Street Journal Online

3/24/2011

LOS ANGELES—After months of public battling, union and city leaders reached what they called a landmark deal Thursday that for the first time forced concessions from a coalition of city unions, and could shape other labor negotiations.

Union members still must vote to approve the deal. If they do, more than 14,500 city employees would nearly double their contribution to retirement benefits from six to 11 percent of their salaries starting July 1. Workers would also forgo planned salary increases, and overtime pay.

Wisconsin Governor Repeals Requirements For Contractors on State Building Projects

Daily Labor Report Online
3/25/11

On March 9, Walker endorsed Executive Order 18, which repeals the six-year-old apprenticeship requirements created by former Gov. Jim Doyle (D) under EO 108. Walker's order relieves contractors of any apprenticeship standards required for bidding and contracting jobs with the Department of Transportation, the Department of Administration, and any other state agency. The order also halts any pending compliance investigations or determinations by the Bureau of Apprenticeship Standards.

The Union's Priorities Are Clear

Wall Street Journal Online
3/28/2011

Colleen Kelley, national president of the National Treasury Employees Union, regarding representation of the Transportation Security Administration workers, protests that the misunderstood public employee unions "do not exist to compete with and undermine public priorities; employees organize and bargain collectively because they care about public service and want to make it better" (Letters, March 16).

Perhaps she should re-read the NTEU's mission statement on its website, which says, "Our mission: To organize federal employees to work together to ensure that every federal employee is treated with dignity and respect." Nothing in this mission statement references protection of "public priorities."

Weingarten for the Union Defense

Wall Street Journal Online
3/26/2011

And so it goes. Ms. Weingarten insists that teachers unions are agents of change, not defenders of the status quo. But in the next breath she shoots down suggestions for changes—vouchers, charter schools, differential teacher pay and so on—that have become important parts of the reform conversation. She seems to conceive of her job as the one William F. Buckley Jr. ascribed to conservatives in the 1950s: To stand athwart history yelling "Stop!"

LaFollette Says Uinon Law Not in Effect, Walker Official Disagrees

The Daily Caller Online
3/27/2011

"It's still an act of the Legislature that has not yet become law because I have not yet designated a publication date," La Follette said.

He added the law cannot take effect until he directs publication in the official state newspaper, the Wisconsin State Journal. Normally, a bill takes effect the day after publication.

Pushing Back against a Decree

National Review Online
3/28/2011

Since taking office, Pres. Barack Obama has shown a remarkable penchant for changing the law by fiat. From Citizenship and Immigration Services' debating how best to let the maximum number of illegal aliens off the hook to the EPA's declaring it would treat carbon-dioxide emissions as a pollutant, the administration has taken the stance that votes in Congress aren't really necessary, even for dramatically contentious subjects. Who needs a debate and a vote when you can rule by regulatory decree?

Legal News Labor vs. Legislatures: Wisconsin's attack on collective bargaining may spread

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette Online
3/28/2011

The path of unions may be set by how closely other states -- including Pennsylvania -- emulate Wisconsin's stance

The much-debated Wisconsin law dissolving collective bargaining rights for public workers remains in limbo since a judge blocked its implementation this month. But, however the drama plays out, both labor and management agree the outcome may reverberate in the American workplace -- and in this still-recovering economy -- for years to come.

WI GOP Investigates Illegal Political Activity, Makes the Left Angry

Redstate Online
3/27/2011

If there is a key difference between conservatives and liberals it is their view on the rule of law. Speaking in broad terms liberals believe that a person is not accountable for their actions if their cause is just or if they have the "right" background or the "right" politics. So not a peep is heard about the clown car that is the Ninth Circuit but the left goes crazy about the benign appearances of Justices Scalia and Alito. Cass Sustein and Goodwin Liu can hold legal opinions that not only put them outside the mainstream of American jurisprudence but also on the fringe of American society and no one says boo. John Yoo, on the other hand, was excoriated for writing an opinion attempting to define "torture." Union thugs, the New Black Panther Party, and anti-globalization crazies should not be prosecuted. Tea parties, on the other hand, are dog whistle calls for anti-government violence and should be suppressed.

Analysis: Education reform divides TN Republicans

Tennessean Online
3/27/2011

Gov. Bill Haslam appears to have secured his first victory, as the legislature approved his proposals to remake the state's teacher tenure laws last week, but significant differences remain among Republicans on reforming education in Tennessee.

Rep. Smith's claims on 'Right to Work' are false

Seacoast Online
3/28/2011

Rep. Will Smith does not dispute my assertion that his "Right to Work" bill has nothing to do with workers' right to work. Instead he responds with more disingenuous claims.

Right to join union equals right to not join

Northwest Indiana Times Online
3/18/2011

I read the article where business agent Ted Bilski was arguing for bargaining rights and helped pass a resolution praising union efforts in improving wages and working conditions. To me, if any American absolutely has the right to join a union, they also retain the right to not be forced to join a union if they so desire.