



Bring federal labor law into the 21st century

Washington Examiner Online, 4/27/2011

"Obama placed Becker on the NLRB with a recess appointment. Within three months, the National Right to Work Foundation had filed 13 motions noting Becker's conflicts of interest in decisions before the NLRB," The Weekly Standard's Mark Hemingway recently noted. "Oblivious, Becker has participated in handing down rulings in at least 17 cases involving unions he represented as a lawyer. In each of those cases save one, Becker ruled in favor of the unions," Hemingway said.

Those Workers Aren't Freeloaders

Wall Street Journal Online, 4/25/2011, by W. James Young

Freeloaders? What Mr. Geoghegan fails to mention is that these so-called freeloaders are actually "forced-loaders," having had their individual power to bargain over terms and conditions of employment extinguished and given over to union leaders.

It is hardly unfair to make those union leaders actually represent those they purport to represent. At least the courts have so held, with the judicially imposed "duty of fair representation," as a condition of the monopoly bargaining power which is granted to labor unions under federal and state labor laws. This power is a privilege for which union leaders lobby and which they jealously guard. Right-to-work states don't "make unions pay for these services." That's federal law, something Mr. Geoghegan fails to mention.

Pretentious teachers, administrators face day of reckoning

Phillyburbs.com, 4/27/2011

Edwin Viera, constitutional law professor, legal scholar and strategist for the Right to Work Foundation, arguing in the "De Paul Law Review" declared: "Through its collective bargaining power, the National Education Association has claimed privileged access to public policymaking. In the 1960s rush to recognize public sector unions, what legal scholars regard as a serious constitutional objection was never answered."

Professor Viera, later appearing before the U.S. Supreme Court, charged that exclusive or collective bargaining sessions were violations of the equal protection clause of the U. S. Constitution.

Seven Unanimous Against Public Collective Bargaining

News-Register Online, 4/27/2011

WHEELING - West Virginia never should extend collective bargaining rights to its public employees, according to all seven gubernatorial hopefuls who debated Tuesday night.

Citing fiscal and public safety concerns, each was firm in his or her stance on the issue - one that has forged deep divisions in other states like Ohio and Wisconsin in recent months. West Virginia is among the states that do not bargain collectively with employees.

Supreme Court Denies Virginia's Petition For Review of District Court PPACA Ruling

Daily Labor Report Online, 4/25/2011

The U.S. Supreme Court rejected April 25 Virginia's attempt to bypass intermediate appellate review of a decision that allowed implementation of the controversial health care law but declared a key provision unconstitutional (*Virginia ex rel. Cuccinelli v. Sebelius*, U.S., No. 10-1014, review denied 4/25/11).

The high court gave no reason for the denial, and no dissents were noted on the court's orders list. Some employers have urged that the high court take up the case at this early stage, given that the new law requires them to implement significant administrative changes and the uncertainty over its constitutionality has left many employers unsure of the steps they may need to take.

The denial allows cross appeals pending in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit to proceed. Briefing has been completed in the appeal, and oral argument is scheduled for May 10.

NLRB meddling pure union payoff

Detroit News Online, 4/25/11

The Boeing Co., an innovator in the rebuilding of a recession-ravaged America, found a way to proceed efficiently on a project that would help South Carolina with 1,000 employees already hired, but no.

Labor Board Case Against Boeing Points to Fights to Come

New York Times, /23/2011

For businesses, it was the type of action they have feared from a National Labor Relations Board dominated by Democrats. For labor unions, it was the type of action they have hoped for. And for both, it may be a sign of things to come.

GM, Chrysler dominate 'worst cars' list. Oh, and the UAW wants to thank you for bailing them out

Washington Examiner Online, 4/25/2011

Thank goodness we put up \$80 billion to bail out GM and Chrysler. They are now building such wonderful cars that they have achieved total dominance of the Forbes "Worst Cars on the Road" list, which we could also call the "Bottom Eleven."

Debt & Deficits Top Daniels' Presidential Priorities

Indiana's News Center Now, 4/25/2011

(Washington Post)-- No prospective Republican presidential candidate has done more to highlight the issue of debt and deficits than Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels. He calls it the "new red menace," an ocean of red ink that he says is every bit as dangerous as the Soviet nuclear threat during the Cold War.

Obama's \$5 Billion Giveaway to UAW

National Review Online, 4/25/2011

In less than a year, the Obama administration has given nearly \$2 billion to some of the largest corporations and unions in America, as well as to a multitude of states. Section 1102 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act — better known as Obamacare — created the Early Retiree Reinsurance Program (ERRP), a \$5 billion taxpayer-subsidy program for early-retirement medical costs. The program is about to run out of money, which is good news for everyone — except, of course, Congress's favorite special-interest groups.

The largest recipient of ERRP funds was the United Auto Workers (UAW) Retiree Medical Benefits Trust, which got \$206.8 million.

The White House vs. Boeing: A Tennessee Tale

Wall Street Journal Online, 4/25/2011

Our goal should be to make it easier and cheaper to create private-sector jobs in this country. Giving workers the right to join or not to join a union helps to create a competitive environment in which more manufacturers like Nissan can make here 85% of what they sell here.

NLRB Prepares to Sue Arizona, South Dakota, Challenging State 'Secret Ballot Amendments'

Daily Labor Report Online, 4/25/2011

National Labor Relations Board Acting General Counsel Lafe E. Solomon informed the attorneys general of four states in an April 22 letter that he has instructed NLRB lawyers to proceed with the immediate filing of lawsuits to invalidate recent "secret ballot" amendments to the Arizona and South Dakota state constitutions, contending they are preempted by the National Labor Relations Act and the supremacy clause of the U.S. Constitution.

Former ATU Headquarters Worker Files ULP Alleging Retaliation for Organizing Union Staff

Daily Labor Report Online, 4/22/2011

A former communications department worker at the international office of the Amalgamated Transit Union April 12 filed an unfair labor practice charge with the National Labor Relations Board, alleging that the union and its newly elected president, Larry Hanley, retaliated against him by terminating him for spearheading an organizing drive among ATU staff employees.

NYC's fire-proof criminal teachers go back to class

New York Post Online, 4/25/2011

They've killed, looted taxpayer funds and committed other heinous crimes -- but the city can't keep these criminals out of the classroom.

More than 500 teachers convicted of crimes in the last five years -- from drunken driving to assault to manslaughter -- are still skulking around the schools because the Department of Education is hamstrung from getting rid of them.

Teachers suspended over protests

Milwaukeebuzz.com, 4/26/2011

The Hudson Star-Observer of Hudson, Wis., reports that the Hudson Board of Education voted recently to mete out punishment to teachers who called in sick on Feb. 18 to protest's Gov. Scott Walker's Budget Repair Bill.

According to the newspaper, suspensions ranged from one to 15 unpaid days of suspension. In addition, all of the teachers disciplined will receive letters of reprimand in their personnel files.

Raynor Resigns From Positions of President Of Workers United, SEIU International VP

Daily Labor Report Online, 4/26/2011

Amid internal charges of allegedly misappropriating union funds through misleading expense reports, Bruce Raynor, president of the Workers United affiliate of the Service Employees International Union and international executive vice president of SEIU, announced April 26 he is resigning from those positions effective May 7.

Pew Study Finds 'Widening Gap' in Funding Of States' Pensions, While Some Disagree

Daily Labor Report Online 4/26/2011

The study, *The Widening Gap: The Great Recession's Impact on State Pension and Retiree Health Care Costs*, found that the gap between retirement benefits promised to employees and the money states have to pay out those promises grew to at least \$1.26 trillion in fiscal 2009.

Latest state to curtail PEU bargaining rights is ... Massachusetts?

HotAir.com, 4.27/2011

Not only has the Massachusetts state House passed a new law barring all PEUs from collective bargaining on health care, it passed by a veto-proof majority — because Democrats pushed the bill:

Property Tax Cap Leads to Stark Choice in New Jersey Town

www.wnyc.org, 93.9 FM, 4/25/2011

...the story is a little more complicated in Brick Township, along the Jersey Shore. It's one of the 14 towns asking for more than two percent higher taxes. It's asking residents to approve a budget that exceeds it by \$8 million, the biggest increase of all the towns.

It's a big ask, and the town is giving residents a stark choice: pay the higher taxes, or the town will stop collecting your trash.