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IAM Accuses Boeing Of Using Political Tactics In Factory Dispute

Aviation Week Online, 5/06/2011

In Congress, the issue is being seen as a showdown over states' rights to permit individual workers to opt out of union membership. According to the National Right To Work Committee, 22 states endorse non-compulsory union membership. Most are in the American South, but some are in the Midwest and the West. States compelling union membership where a majority of workers have voted for it are in the industrial heartland, the Pacific Coast and Northeast.

Right-To-Work Laws Work

Daily News-Record Online, Harrisonburg, VA , 5/09/2011

So, who's Mr. Hoffa kidding? Right-to-work laws not only offer workers a chance to choose whether or not to join a union, but also provide greater opportunity to obtain something far more basic: a job.

As Boeing factory debate heats up past writings of NLRB member Craig Becker raise Questions

Daily Caller Online, 5/06/2011

Old law review articles obtained by The Daily Caller that were authored by Becker further inflame the already heated debate. "The right to engage in concerted activity that is enshrined in the Wagner Act – even when construed in strictly contractual terms – implicitly entails legal restraint of the freedom of capital," he wrote in the January 1987 edition of the Harvard Law Review. "What threatens to eviscerate labor's collective legal rights, therefore, is less the common law principle of individual liberty than the mobility of capital, which courts have held immune from popular control."

"If you cut through all the academic speak here, in effect, what he's saying is collective bargaining and the Wagner Act doesn't set up a system of collective bargaining. It sets up a guaranteed outcome," explained Americans for Limited Government President Bill Wilson. "What he's saying here is labor unions can't possibly succeed unless you guarantee their success. In his reading of the law, any notion of workers who choose to collectively bargain sitting down with their employer and working out a deal is gone."

Former local union heavyweight may be recharged after legal snafu by feds

New York Daily News Online, 5/07/2011

Daniel Hughes, the former president of the Port Authority field association Local 111-S, appeared in Brooklyn Federal Court Friday for the first time since he admitted looting union funds last June.

Federal prosecutors have told Hughes that his union may not be covered under the law they used to charge him and requested that he withdraw his guilty plea.

But he wouldn't be off the hook: Hughes would be charged with wire fraud and would have to plead guilty a second time.

Sounds simple - but the corrupt labor boss is balking, claiming the do-over may expose him to double-jeopardy issues.

NLRB Sues Boeing, and Why South Carolina's Loss May Be America's Too

Townhall.com, 5/07/2011

The National Labor Relations Board – these days known by many of its critics as the National Organized Labor Relations Board – must have a pretty broad definition of the words “coercion” and “retaliation.” And should it prevail in court, the result will be less freedom for employers and employees across the nation.

Teachers to pay extra dues to fight Ohio union law

wfmj.com, 5/08/2011

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) - Members of Ohio's largest teachers' union have agreed to a 1-time, \$54 dues increase to pay for the fight against Ohio's new collective bargaining law.

A spokeswoman for the Ohio Education Association says 111,000 active union members would pay the extra dollars under a proposal overwhelmingly approved Friday. School support staff would pay \$25. Student and retired members were exempted.

Unions might drop state status

Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel Online, 5/06/2011

Madison — If Gov. Scott Walker's union bargaining measure becomes law and forces do-or-die recertification votes for public employee unions, some large public unions might simply skip the votes and drop their official status with the state.

That would mean the unions could no longer officially sit at the bargaining table to negotiate, though the unions could continue to exist and take up the cause of their members in other, less-formal ways.

Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker says Milwaukee County paid employees over \$170,000 in 2010 to work for their unions

Politifact.com, 5/09/2011

"In Milwaukee County alone, because the union collectively bargained for paid time off, 14 employees receive salary and benefits for doing union business. Of the 14, three are on full-time release for union business. Milwaukee County spent over \$170,000 in salary alone for these employees to only participate in union activities such as collective bargaining."

Experts See Peril for City in Union Pension Proposal

New York Times Online, 5/05/2011

In a final push to get a consensus pension-reform measure on the ballot this fall, San Francisco's public-employee unions are lobbying hard for a change in accounting procedures that experts say is legally dubious and would cost the city hundreds of millions of dollars in the long run.

NLRB Files Lawsuit Against State of Arizona Citing Federal Preemption of State Ballot Law

Daily Labor Report Online, 5/06/2011

Following through on its position that a November 2010 amendment to the Arizona constitution requiring secret-ballot union representation elections creates an "actual conflict" with the federal labor law rights of private sector employees, the National Labor Relations Board May 6 filed suit in federal court seeking a declaration that the provision is preempted by the National Labor Relations Act (NLRB v. Arizona, D. Ariz., case number not available, complaint filed 5/6/11).

Sixth Circuit Rejects Secondary Boycott Suit, Deciding 2-1 Proximate Causation Not Shown

Daily Labor Report Online, 5/06/2011

A Michigan ready-mix concrete firm showed that it was removed from a construction site within about a week after union representatives threatened to picket in protest of the company's presence, but the firm lacked evidence of "proximate causation" needed to support a claim for damages under the Labor-Management Relations Act, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit held in a 2-1 decision May 5 (Shafer Redi-Mix Inc. v. Int'l Bhd. of Teamsters Local 7, 6th Cir., No. 09-2323, 5/5/11).