



Ending Tax Break for Union Dues Could Save \$25 Billion

Evening Standard, 7/06/2011

While ending the corporate jet tax break will save only \$3 billion over the next 10 years, ending a tax break for one big Democratic constituency--unions--could save a lot more money over that same time.

A conservative estimate for union dues paid each year is \$8 billion, according to the National Right to Work's Stan Greer. If over ten years \$80 billion in union dues were taxed, the federal government could generate roughly \$25 billion in tax revenue.

MIX: Beyond Boeing

Washington Times Online, 7/06/2011

While the Boeing case is a visibly egregious assault on our free-enterprise system, it's hardly the first, or even the latest, forced-unionism power grab launched by the Obama labor board.

The Boeing case is just the tip of the iceberg when it comes to the workings of the Obama labor board. Its goal of empowering union bosses comes at the expense of individual employees and employers. Congress should rein in the rogue NLRB.

Mark Mix is president of the National Right to Work Committee (nrtw.org).

Graham pushes Boeing fight as 2012 campaign issue

Washington Times Online, 7/06/2011

The battle between the aerospace giant and its labor unions and over the \$1 billion manufacturing plant - the largest private investment in the state's history - has developed into a major political brawl. The NLRB, now dominated by appointees of President Obama, has filed an action to block the nonunion plant from opening, infuriating South Carolina officials and sparking sharp criticism from congressional Republicans

Ohio Activists to Deliver Petitions Seeking Referendum to Repeal Law

DLR 6/28/2011

CINCINNATI—Ohioans hoping to repeal S.B. 5, legislation revoking collective bargaining rights for 360,000 public employees, will march to the secretary of state's office June 29 to deliver petitions to put the question on November's ballot.

We Are Ohio, a labor-citizen coalition spearheading the ballot initiative, began collecting signatures days after the bill invalidating most of Ohio's 28-year-old collective bargaining law was signed by Gov. John Kasich (R) (62 DLR A-9, 3/31/11).

President Obama Comments on Boeing Case: Firms Free to Relocate, Must Follow the Law

DLR 6/29/2011

A reporter asked the president whether the unfair labor practice complaint against the aircraft manufacturer is “an example of the kind of regulations that chill job growth and also the kind of regulations that you yourself have called ‘just plain dumb.’” Obama responded that he wanted to avoid discussing details of a case that is pending before an independent agency.

Obama said, “as a general proposition, companies need to have the freedom to relocate.” But, he added, “they have to follow the law.”

Stating “the airplane industry is an area where we still have a huge advantage,” Obama said “I want to make sure that we keep it.”

NLRB Studying Possible Office Reorganizations

DLR 6/30/2011

In a statement released by the board's Office of Public Affairs, Acting General Counsel Lafe E. Solomon said the agency is now reviewing the status of its regional offices in Winston-Salem, N.C. (Region 11) and in Los Angeles (Regions 21 and 31).

Noting that proposals for changing the board's structure may include consolidating and restructuring field offices as well as divisions in the agency's headquarters, NLRB said proposed changes will be announced to the public, including labor law practitioners, members of the labor-management community, and interested members of Congress, so their comments may be considered.

Failed Talks Signal Struggles for UAW

Wall Street Journal Online, 7/07/2011

Failed labor talks that contributed to the closing of a Detroit auto-parts plant have implications for negotiations between the Detroit Three and the United Auto Workers union, which has signaled it hopes to recover wage givebacks now that U.S. auto makers are profitable.

Unions Try to Silence a Think Tank

Wall Street Journal Online, 7/02/2011

Late last month, the Connecticut think tank of which I am chairman was the subject of a bizarre complaint filed by public-union leaders. Their gripe? That the Yankee Institute is critical of union practices and that our funders share the same view.

Wisconsin: The Canary in the Public Union Coal Mine

National Review Online, 7/07/2011

Consequently, national union money has been pouring into the state in order to make Republicans pay for weakening unions. The We Are Wisconsin Political Action Committee announced last week that they had raised \$4 million for the effort to recall GOP senators, with over \$3 million of that coming from the national AFL-CIO.

Additionally, the PAC collected six-figure donations from AFSCME, United Food and Commercial Workers, and WEAC, the state's largest teachers' union. As pointed out by Media Trackers, the PAC's spokesman is Kelly Steele, who most recently worked on Sen. Harry Reid's reelection battle in Nevada.

Labor Battle at Center of Virginia Senate Race

Real Clear Politics, 7/07/2011

"Virginia is a great test case" for how labor and the candidates' responses to the NLRB case will play into political campaigns, says Wszolek. He points to the loss of union-backed candidate Creigh Deeds to Republican Bob McDonnell in Virginia's 2009 gubernatorial race, and warns about the tenuous fate candidates could face if they over-embrace unions in right-to-work states. A month before the election, Deeds told a crowd of union supporters, "When I'm governor, you won't just have a friend in Richmond -- you'll have a partner." Being on the side of union leaders, Wszolek says, "is not a safe place to be in American politics now."