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Union Monopoly Bargaining Harms Millions of American Workers

National Institute for Labor Relations Research, www.nilrr.org, 12/22/2011

Apologists for compulsory unionism often suggest, with little or no evidence, that employees who oppose unionization of their workplace have no good reason for believing they would be harmed by a Big Labor takeover. In a recent op-ed opposing passage of an Indiana Right to Work law written for the South Bend (Ind.) Tribune, for example, Notre Dame professors Barbara Fick and Marty Wolfson simply assume, without making an argument or citing any facts, that union nonmembers subject to "exclusive" (monopoly) union representation in the workplace thereby "enjoy . . . benefits."1

Will history repeat or will divisive issue fail?

TribStar.com, 12/25/2011

Hoosiers will soon learn if history repeats, as proponents and opponents of Right to Work legislation are already organizing to coordinate a campaign that will likely dominate discussion in the 2012 Indiana General Assembly.

Ex-UAW Officers Sentenced for Conspiracy To Extort Jobs During 1997 GM Strike

Daily Labor Report Online, 12/20/2011

Donny Douglas and Jay Campbell were convicted in 2006 after a jury trial on charges that they threatened to extend a strike at a Pontiac, Mich., truck plant unless GM hired two unqualified, non-UAW members for skilled trades positions (127 DLR A-9, 7/3/06).

Unions Win More Freedom to Organize in Workplace

Wall Street Journal Online, 12/22/2011

New federal rules unveiled Wednesday will make it tougher for employers to stall unionorganizing drives inside the workplace, one of the biggest changes in decades to how workers join unions.

Visitors from Outer Space and Their Strange Ideas About Education Reform

Union Watch, 12/27/2011

There are those among us who think that teachers unions, collective bargaining and peer assistance review are the way to a better education for kids. They look like earthlings, but in fact are extraterrestrials.

Stalemate Over FAA Leaves Bill Unsettled

Wall Street Journal Online, 12/24/2011

House and Senate leaders remain at odds over labor provisions in a long-stalled FAA reauthorization bill, increasing the likelihood of another short-term legislative extension early next year to keep the agency functioning, according to government and industry officials.

The Buzz: Pension reform crusader David Crane loses his post as University of California regent

Sacramento Bee Online, 12/27/2011

Crane, a Democrat, was Schwarzenegger's point man on public pensions. He contended that the state's three largest funds, including UC's, were committing "generational theft" by understating their liabilities and siphoning money from schools and social programs.

RI Lawmakers Begin Next Round of Pension Reforms

Boston.com, 12/26/2011

Mayors around the state warn that without the ability to cut pensions, their cities will have to raise taxes or slash services to keep up with the ever-escalating cost of providing the retirement plans for municipal employees.

Ben Nelson retiring from Senate

Politico.com 12/27/2011

Democratic Sen. Ben Nelson of Nebraska will announce today that he is retiring after two terms, a serious blow to Democratic efforts to hold onto their majority in the chamber next November.