
Minnesota Business Leaders

A coalition powered by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce along with chambers, associations, and businesses to save the secret ballot.



Update: Week of March 23

There's Still Time to Join MBL!

Leaders from 47 Minnesota chambers of commerce and trade associations have signed on as coalition members. There is still time to be a part of MBL - contact us today!

Albert Lea-Freeborn County Chamber
Alexandria Lakes Area Chamber
Apple Valley Chamber
Brainerd Lakes Chamber
Burnsville Chamber
Chamber of Commerce of Fargo
Moorhead
Chamber Grand Forks/East Grand Forks
Dakota County Regional Chamber
Duluth Area Chamber
Eden Prairie Chamber
Edina Chamber

Register Today: MN Business Leaders Head to DC to Defeat EFCA

Rebuilding Our Economy Together
America's Small Business Summit 2009
May 11-13, 2009
Washington, DC

The Minnesota Chamber of Commerce Executive's (MCCE) Washington DC fly-in, held in conjunction with the U.S. Chamber's Small Business Summit, will be a remarkably important event in the EFCA battle. During the Summit's opening session, U.S. Chamber Chief Legal Officer & General Counsel Steven Law will provide an update on the status of the card check legislation. Find out how this bill could impact your business and your community and what you can do about it now. Meetings will be set up with each of the members of the MN

Elk River Area Chamber
 Faribault Area Chamber
 Greater Wayzata Area Chamber
 Hastings Area Chamber
 I-94 West Chamber
 International Falls Area Chamber
 Lakeville Area Chamber
 Litchfield Chamber
 Minneapolis Regional Chamber
 Minnesota Chamber
 MN Automobile Dealers Association
 MN Beverage Association
 MN Grocers Association
 MN Trucking Association
 MN Associated Builders & Contractors
 MN Business Partnership
 MN Lodging Association
 MN Restaurant Association
 North Hennepin Area Chamber
 Northfield Area Chamber
 Owatonna Area Chamber
 Printing Industry of MN
 Richfield Chamber
 River Heights Chamber
 Rochester Area Chamber
 Saint Paul Area Chamber
 Saint Peter Area Chamber
 SouthWest Metro Chamber
 St. Cloud Area Chamber
 TwinWest Chamber
 U.S. Chamber
 Waconia Chamber of Commerce
 Wahpeton Breckenridge Area Chamber
 White Bear Area Chamber
 Willmar Lakes Area Chamber
 Winona Area Chamber

Outreach Updates

Click [here](#) to read an op-ed submitted by the **Rochester Area Chamber**. It appeared earlier this month in the Rochester Post-Bulletin.

Organizations across the state have been using information provided by the coalition. Click [here](#) to view a copy of an e-newsletter the **Willmar Lakes Area Chamber** ran this week.

Congressional Delegation to discuss EFCA and other important issues pending before Congress. This is a great opportunity to show your opposition to EFCA so don't miss out!

The cost for this event is \$450 per person. **Be sure to register through MCCE**, as you'll save up to nearly \$300 per person by doing so. Click [here](#) for a registration form. Flights to DC for the Summit are very competitive currently, so don't delay making plans! (Right now a nonstop flight with NWA is running about \$250.)

Legislative Updates

On Tuesday, **Sen. Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania announced that he would oppose the Employee Free Choice Act**, and vote against the bill as well as a cloture motion. This is a major development as Sen. Specter was the only Republican to vote in favor of cloture in 2007. Many supporters of EFCA have argued that they would have the necessary votes this year by assuming all Democrats would support cloture, that Al Franken would become the next Senator from Minnesota, and that Sen. Specter would again support cloture. **This announcement means that supporters must find another way to get to 60 votes.**

This announcement does not mean that the battle over EFCA is over. One of the many decisions that EFCA supporters need to make is whether they will try to find some other way to pass EFCA this year, whether they will instead try to elect more EFCA supporters in 2010, or whether they will instead push some other alternative bill (indeed, Sen. Specter left the door open to potentially supporting EFCA in the future should the economy improve and no amendments were made to the NLRA).

Your help has been critical in getting us to this

President Ken Warner says it was an easy way to pass on EFCA information to members. We encourage you to include MBL news in your communications pieces as well!

Looking for an EFCA Websticker?

We've had a number of requests for website links on Card Check. We think this link is best as it goes directly to an EFCA Action Alert center for your members to check out within the Vote For Business website. To program the sticker on your homepage, simply have your Webmaster copy and paste the associated code of the image to the HTML portion of your homepage:

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<a href="http://capwiz.com/chamber/
/issues/alert/?alertid=12675391"
target="_blank"><img src=
"http://www.voteforbusiness.net/
resources/voteforbusiness/images/
stickers/efca_2.jpg" border="0" alt="
Say no to Card Check" /></a>
```



EFCA Toolkit

The U.S. Chamber also has an online EFCA [Tool Kit](#) that has sample letters to Congress, Newsletter articles, and other information to assist you with your outreach.

Minnesota Business Leaders: Your Go-To Resource

Click [here](#) for a list of the coalition's contacts.

point and we will continue to call upon you and we strive to ensure that EFCA and similar legislation is taken off the table for good.

Also, as you may have seen or heard, there are **numerous rumors about a compromise being developed on EFCA**. Given the apparent lack of 60 votes in the Senate to invoke cloture on EFCA when it is on the Senate floor, some have suggested that a compromise will need to be developed. For the proponents, it would appear this is the only legitimate course of action.

It should not be surprising that some very small number of companies, out of the hundreds of thousands concerned with EFCA, may be exploring other options. However, it is clear that the business community is strongly united in its opposition to EFCA.

You may hear more about proposals to compromise or create a new bill in the coming weeks. **We urge you to remember that we are still well positioned to win this battle; we need to stay on course and on message and not get distracted by talk of alternatives.**

Plan to Meet your Member of Congress during the Upcoming District Work Period

Congress is set to recess for Easter/Passover April 6-17. Members of Congress will be home during this time creating an opportunity for business leaders to meet with members of the MN Delegation on EFCA/Card Check. Attending a Town Hall Meeting, hosting an event by the local chamber or other business groups, setting up a small group meeting at the Member's field office, or organizing a business tour are all great ways to share your concern and opposition to this legislation. If you are interested in organizing a meeting or event, please contact Jennifer Byers at

the MN Chamber of Commerce,
jbyers@mnchamber.com or 651-292-4673.

You are receiving this email because you recently joined the Minnesota Business Leaders coalition or you are a chamber or business association in Minnesota that may have interest in becoming active on this issue.

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