

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 May 11

MBL Coalition Members are taking action TODAY to stop this misnamed and misguided legislation.

The coalition of business organizations is your go to source for EFCA information and updates. Sign up today if you would like to join the fight to save the secret ballot!

- Albert Lea-Freeborn County Chamber
- Alexandria Lakes Area Chamber
- Apple Valley Chamber
- Austin Area Chamber
- Brainerd Lakes Chamber
- Burnsville Chamber
- Chamber of Commerce of Fargo Moorhead

MBL Website is Launched!

Check out <http://www.mnbusinessleaders.com/> - your information source for all things Card Check. This brand new site has all of the EFCA resources and information you and your members will need. Powered by the U.S. Chamber, you will find links to the Chamber's Card Check Toolkit, EFCA facts and figures, and all of the latest news on the legislation.

Small Business Summit Update

Chamber Grand Forks/East Grand Forks
 Dakota County Regional Chamber
 Duluth Area Chamber
 Eden Prairie Chamber
 Edina Chamber
 Elk River Area Chamber
 Fairmont Area Chamber
 Faribault Area Chamber
 Greater Wayzata Area Chamber
 Grand Rapids Area Chamber
 Hastings Area Chamber
 I-94 West Chamber
 International Falls Area Chamber
 Lakeville Area Chamber
 Litchfield Chamber
 Marshall Area Chamber
 MetroNorth Chamber
 Midway Chamber
 Minneapolis Regional Chamber
 Minnesota Chamber
 MN Associated Builders & Contractors
 MN Automobile Dealers Association
 MN Beverage Association
 MN Business Partnership
 MN Grocers Association
 MN Lodging Association
 MN Restaurant Association
 MN Trucking Association
 MN Warehouse 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
 Thief River Falls Chamber
 TwinWest Chamber
 U.S. Chamber
 Waconia Chamber of Commerce
 Wahpeton Breckenridge Area Chamber
 White Bear Area Chamber



Members of the Minnesota Delegation for this year's Small Business Summit are featured above. As a part of this year's Washington DC trip, delegates worked specifically to voice their opposition to EFCA and demonstrate the negative effects the legislation could have on business. Thanks to all of those who participated on the trip - it is sure to be an important event in the fight to stop Card Check!

"Compromise" on EFCA?

Word of a "compromise" continues to be circulated but workable solutions appear to be unobtainable and from our point of view, not a good place to start negotiating from.

Here's what Senator Ben Nelson (D-NE) had to say to MSNBC late last week on the matter:

"You take away the arbitration issue, and you still have the 'card check', so that doesn't work. You take away the 'card check' and you still have the arbitration problem. And if both go away, you're left with nothing. It's a fool's errand to do this. I just don't see an agreement happening."

<http://firstread.msnbc.msn.com/archive/2009/05/08/1926370.aspx>

EFCA Claims

The Truth Behind Claims Made by Proponents of the Employee Free Choice Act...

Willmar Lakes Area Chamber
Winona Area Chamber
Worthington Area Chamber

Card Check in the News

Associated Press - "Biden says the White House is committed to passing a bill that would make it easier for workers to form unions.": <http://tinyurl.com/o7frep>

Communicate with Your Members!

Many organizations are using the MBL e-newsletter as a regular communications tool by forwarding it on to their interested members. We encourage you to do the same!

Payroll Stuffer

Over the past few weeks, several coalition members have requested a payroll stuffer to pass on so their members' employees can learn more about the proposed legislation. Click [here](#) to view the proof designed by the U.S. Chamber.

Minnesota Business Leaders: Your Go-To Resource

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

We continue this week with a few common claims on Card Check and the real facts behind them. As previously mentioned, these items are great pieces of information to share with your members.

Claim #3: Employers illegally fire employees in 25 to 30 percent of all organizing drives.

Facts: Those who claim employers illegally fire a large number of employees during organizing drives cite two studies, one by professor Kate Bronfenbrenner and another commissioned by the pro-union group American Rights at Work. However, these reports are actually surveys of the uncorroborated reports of union organizers-hardly an unbiased source. A more reliable and unbiased source, the National Labor Relations Board, shows that, at most, employees are illegally fired in 1.6 percent of organizing drives. If the NLRB finds that an employer illegally fired workers during an organizing drive, it has the power to order the employer to recognize and bargain with the union, even if the union lost the election.

Claim #4: The secret ballot election process enables employers to wage bitter anti-union campaigns.

Facts: While union organizing can sometimes become contentious, in 85 percent of all cases the employer and union reach agreement on the most contentious issues surrounding union elections: the scope of the bargaining unit (who is eligible to vote), and the date and time of the election. The fact that the parties agree to these stipulations in the vast majority of cases illustrates once again that in most cases, the secret ballot election works fairly and smoothly.

3,100 Sign Letter

Approximately 3,100 companies signed the U.S. Chamber's company letter opposing the Employee Free Choice Act. To view the letter and the full list of businesses, click [here](#).

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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