

What Does Right To Work Mean?

Right to work laws are some of the most misunderstood laws around. While it doesn't give you the right to a job, it does weaken unions. It does that by specifically targeting workplaces that have union contracts. In those workplaces it allows employees to not pay union dues, even though by law the union still has to represent and bargain for those non-dues paying members. So in essence the RTW states people have the right to freeload off of dues paying members.

How Did Right-To-Work Laws Come About?

In 1947 Congress passed the Taft-Hartley Act which allowed states to make union shops illegal in their state. In other words, it makes it illegal for unions to equally collect fees from all members for services that the law requires them to provide.

Right To Work Doesn't Work!

Workers in states with Right-To-Work laws pay a heavy price in lower wages, poorer living conditions and a generally lower standard of living.

Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. gives the best description of the law: "Right-to-work...provides no 'rights' and no 'works'...Its purpose is to destroy labor unions and the freedom of collective bargaining..."

Free Bargaining States

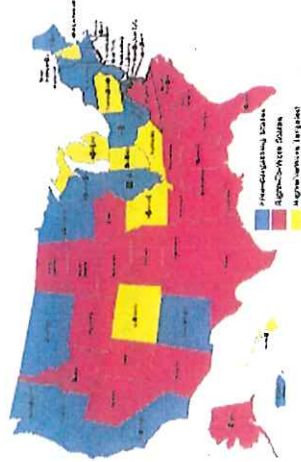
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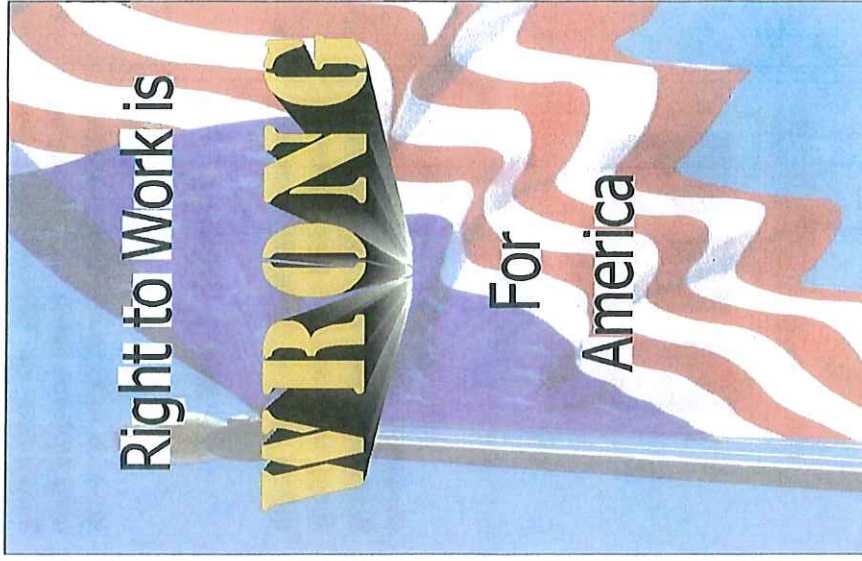
Right To Work States

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Georgia
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Kansas
Louisiana
Mississippi
Nebraska

Nevada
N. Carolina
N. Dakota
Oklahoma
S. Carolina
S. Dakota
Tennessee
Texas
Utah
Virginia
Wyoming



Right-To-Work For Less



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The Facts

Income

- Workers in free bargaining states make on average an astounding \$6,590 or 17% more annually than their counterparts in right to work for less states

Health Care

- You're more likely to have health insurance and you are more likely to be healthy in a free bargaining state. Why? More union members with negotiated health care



SOURCE: National Vital Statistics System, Census for Duration General, 2003. Summary rates for U.S. and RTW/free-bargaining reflect an average of individual rates.

Education

- Education is clearly a priority in free bargaining states. These states invest over \$2,500 more per student
- Lower teacher salaries and student test scores are a result of the lack of spending in RTW states.

Who Is Behind RTW?

A nationwide conservative organization named the National Right To Work Committee with ties to Americas Extreme Right Wing including:

- US Chamber of Commerce, the largest coalition of businesses in the country
- For Profit Union Busters – professional consultants or lawyers who profit off their ability to manipulate labor law, advising employers on how to thwart union organizing drives or how to get rid of workers unions
- Wal-mart
- Holland Coors of the Coors beer dynasty

There are many other businesses and individuals that are unnamed because the National RTW Committee doesn't want you to know.



The National Right to Work Committee targets states with high union densities to try to pass RTW laws. They spend millions of dollars on this and other efforts to completely eliminate unions.

Why Do They Want To Destroy Unions?

Simply put to make workers weaker. We are always stronger when we work together. This divide and conquer attitude keeps us from achieving our goal of social and economic justice.

What Can I Do?

- Support the UAW's CAP Program to stay informed on issues that effect union members
- Work through CAP to defeat issues that negatively effect union members and their families
- Talk to others (worker to worker) about what RTW is and what it does
- Work with other unions and form coalitions with our partners to defeat RTW for less at all levels
- Work to pass fair share legislation
- Start repeal campaigns of any RTW for less language in state law
- Support Employee Free Choice Act

