

Sample Letter Urging Your Senator or Member of Congress to Oppose Card Check

Dear Member of Congress:

I am writing to urge you to strongly oppose the so-called Employee Free Choice Act. This legislation, better known as Card Check, would deprive workers of the ability to vote in a secret ballot election during union organizing drives.

As an elected official, you know the importance of ensuring that citizens are free to express their views in the privacy of the voting booth — without someone looking over their shoulder. Why would anyone want to deny workers this fundamental principle of American democracy?

During Card Check organizing drives, workers have to publicly declare their support or opposition to union representation, exposing them to intimidation, harassment and coercion. During hearings in 2007, Members of Congress heard how union organizers routinely pressure workers in cases where Card Check is allowed under current law. Why would anyone want to subject millions more workers to this treatment?

Just as bad, the Card Check bill includes a “binding arbitration” provision that would let the federal government dictate wages and benefits under a union contract, and then deprive workers of the chance to vote on that contract. This expansion of government power is almost like reestablishing wage and price controls in our economy, and could put many employers out of business.

Card Check is the top priority of labor unions because they know it will enable them to rapidly organize large segments of the economy — including small, family-owned businesses. But it will also deny workers the sacred American right to cast a secret ballot. Your constituents need to know that you will stand with us and protect our rights.

Sincerely,