

Sample Letter to the Editor on Card Check

Big labor unions spent \$450 million in the 2008 elections. What do they expect from this massive investment? The answer is simple: scrapping the federal law that protects both small businesses and workers during union organizing drives.

Under current law, the decision of whether or not to form a union is usually left to the workers — through a secret ballot election. That means that workers can choose — in private — whether they want to join a union. But in such an election, workers might not vote the “right” way. So unions have decided to get rid of secret ballot elections by convincing Congress to pass legislation falsely advertised as the Employee Free Choice Act, better known as Card Check.

Under Card Check, union organizers would be free to “persuade” workers to publicly sign a card stating that they support the union. Union organizers could ask workers to sign a card just about anywhere — in the parking lot after work, at a restaurant, even at home. Once more than 50% sign cards, workers would be stuck with the union — no more debate and no secret ballot election.

Because unions would know who has signed a card, workers would be exposed to unrelenting pressure and coercion. Exposing workers to this harassment may seem unfair, but the goal of this legislation isn’t fairness — it’s getting workers to sign cards and begin paying union dues.

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.

We need our elected officials to protect democracy in our workplaces, not bow to the \$450 million unions “invested” in 2008.