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April 23, 2009



Labor Relations INK

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NOTE: if you are using Internet Explorer v. 6, read the text version, as the html will not load properly in IE6. We recommend upgrading to IE7.

EFCA Update

Do not fall asleep behind the wheel, lulled either by a false sense of security, or by numbness stemming from the confusing messages related to the prognosis for the Employee Free Choice Act. It does seem that the cards are stacking up against the bill passing "as is." Senator Jim Webb (D-VA) has indicated he may [pull his support](#), another [business group](#) has added to the fray on the side of EFCA opponents, and a Teamster-endorsed recent senatorial candidate got away with [dodging confession of support](#) for the bill. However, bubbles of compromise discussion have continued to surface, and even those who have said "no" to the bill, have typically qualified their "no" by specifying they are opposed to the current version of the bill.

Big Labor mogul [Andy Stern](#) attempted to bolster his union comrades. "We are on the hunt for a solution," he said, and indicated that it would be a mistake for Big Labor to wait for the next election cycle, hoping to pick up more votes for the current form of the bill. The AFL-CIO posted a [list of grassroots efforts](#) working on behalf of "reform," and in a move straight out of the standard union playbook, the SEIU appears to have ["stolen" signatures](#) used in a non-EFCA related petition and applied them to a petition in support of the law!

While [both sides are claiming tactical victories](#) for their camp, it doesn't appear that the EFCA proponents are close yet to pulling a passable bill out of the hat. That's good news for American businesses, IF they take advantage of the lull before the storm. Big Labor will not rest – there will be labor law change, whether it comes via one "big" bill like EFCA, a compromise bill, or a group of smaller actions. It will become more difficult for businesses to overcome organizing attempts in the near future, and more businesses will be susceptible to organizing than ever before. They must [prepare now](#), or they *will* pay the price for their procrastination in the very near future.

"An' You Don't Mess Around With ... Andy?"



[the rift in UNITE-HERE](#) by wooing away the UNITE side of the war-torn

Andy Stern, volatile head of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU), is a scrapper par excellence. Having buried the hatchet and come to an agreement with the CNA-NNOC to split the proceeds of hospital organizing (nurses to CNA, service staff to SEIU), he is now [taking advantage of](#)

FREE EFCA White Paper

Discover:

3 Characteristics that make your firm an EFCA target;

5 Easy steps to prevent union card check;

Up-to-date EFCA "Inoculation" strategies.

[View the archives and current scoreboard here.](#)

[Download a PDF of the current scoreboard.](#)

EFCA Cheatsheet



[CLICK HERE](#) to get our new **EFCA Cheatsheet!** A quick reminder of the strategies needed to defeat Big Labor at their game - on *your* turf.

Featured Product



LRI's **EFCA Tool Kit** is everything needed to inoculate a company against unionization in the "target rich" environment created by passage of the Employee

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EFCA 2009 Daily Status

H.R. 1409: Employee Free Choice Act of 2009

Introduced	Mar 10, 2009
Sponsor	Rep. George Miller [D-CA]
Status	Introduced
Last Action	Mar 10, 2009: Referred to the



Free Choice Act. If you are a business, trade association or labor law firm, you can benefit immediately. [Review the details and preview the videos here.](#)

Free Stuff

- [EFCA Fact Sheet](#)
- [Text of Employee Free Choice Act of 2009](#)
- [Text of HR 1355 \(EFCA Compromise Proposal\)](#)
- [Unions: 7 Lies You Must Know](#)
- [5 Keys to Winning Your Union Election](#)
- [Satisfaction Survey](#)
- [Secrets](#)

organization to join the SEIU. The move was a bold encroachment into the gaming turf Stern has set his sights on.

John Wilhelm, co-president of UNITE HERE, calls Stern's efforts "a naked power grab," accusing him of attempting a "hostile takeover of another union's jurisdiction in a way that is unprecedented in the modern labor movement."

Labor experts disagree with Stern's "growth at any cost" strategy, which makes concessions on benefits and working conditions in exchange for making it easier to organize in specific locations.

Jaws Revisited



SEIU is calling for Kenneth Lewis' head on a platter. Why would a union be after the CEO and Chairman of Bank of America? Simply put, they are trying to capitalize on the controversy and consumer angst that the \$45 billion in government funding has created, to [push their agenda](#) for labor law change, specifically the Employee Free Choice Act.

"They're after blood. They're chumming the waters for sharks," UNC Charlotte finance professor Tony Plath says of the union's campaign. "I'm not a cheerleader for BofA. But let's be objective about this: These attacks are all about card check." Plath reasons that by accusing a major company of abusing consumers and workers, Big Labor stands to gain support in Congress for changes they are trying to push through. There are no unionized banks, but with the proposed changes in labor law, that could all change rapidly.

Only In A Union

While Big Labor is attempting to force American workers to give up the protection of a secret ballot in exchange for the easily manipulated "card check" process, the Teamsters are showing the disrespect they hold for any democratic process. Three Teamster members are on trial for [rigging an election](#) in 2004, apparently in [collusion with the attorney](#) of their local.

Now that's democracy, Big Labor style!

LRI Website Update



We've made it easier for you to find what you need on our web site. Hard-hitting videos, on-target publications, a growing inventory of free resources, and our exclusive library of databases, everything you need to move your company ahead of the competition. Here is a [quick diagram](#) highlighting some of the changes. [Check it out](#) – spend a few minutes on the site, and we'd love to hear your feedback!

Contact Congress

Enter your zip code and tell your elected officials how you feel about the Employee Free Choice Act

GO

Sticky Fingers!

[Current charges or sentences](#) of embezzling union officials:

James Decker- ISDWU: undisclosed
Don Padgett- AFGE: \$186,997

Donna Simpson- USW: \$87,823

Christine Throckmorton- HERE: \$9,674

William "Willie" Brown- UA: \$4,942

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Posts Feed

UFCW vs. Wal-Mart

The UFCW is wielding a new [Union Authorization Card](#) sporting a picture and quote from President Obama. In the last month or so, about 60 organizers have been [sent to over 100 Wal-Mart stores](#) across 15 states, using the new card to secure signatures.

As the nations largest private-sector employer with 1.4 million employees in 3600 stores, the unions see Wal-Mart as the key to the nations retailers, whose jobs cannot be shipped overseas. If the Wal-Mart domino falls, Big Labor knows the chain reaction will be enormous.

Kidnapped!?

If the new trend to import all things French (socialism...) continues, we might soon see union locals [kidnapping company](#) officials. Disgruntled employees of French auto parts manufacturer Faurecia recently "sequestered" executives for over 5 hours to protest a restructuring and plant shutdowns. Sony, 3M and Caterpillar have also had to deal with this unusual method of "negotiation." Almost half of the French population believes it is a valid means of bargaining.

APRIL SCORE BOARD

Who are the winners (and losers) of the labor movement? Don't guess, just check the LRI Scoreboard



[View this month's scoreboard \(archives also located here\).](#)

[Download a PDF of this month's scoreboard.](#)

Higher Ed & Big Three Auto

The UAW represents academic student employees at California State University. The latest round of contract talks have been stymied over the issue of fee waivers. Full fee waivers would cost the school between \$8 to \$11 million annually, and CSU is not prepared to budge on the issue.

"[A strike](#) might be something that we'll have to do," a UAW spokesperson said.

Sticky Fingers!

[Current charges or sentences](#) of embezzling union officials:

In a side note to our union fraud section, Obama [recently rescinded](#) new financial disclosure rules put in place in the last days of the Bush administration aimed at making it easier to spot union corruption. Sen. Orrin Hatch, a former chairman of the Senate Labor Committee, complained, "In a time when the president himself said we need more accountability and transparency in government, canceling rules to help root out corruption is not the way to go."

Lyndon Denney - USW: \$24,000

Larry Ramsey - ROU: \$163,222

Frankie Sanders - APWU: \$13,000

Norman Stefanik - USW: \$25,808

Rosa Della Porta - ILWU: \$108,000

William Sargent, Jr. - AFGE: \$31,000

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<http://lrionline.com/free-stuff/newsletter-signup>

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