

March 26, 2009

To the House Labor and Commerce Committee:

I very rarely, if ever, write letters to my representatives, but I must do so now. I do not believe there are representatives in our legislature who would introduce a bill such as HB 37. This so-called "right to work" bill does not give me any more right to work than I already have. This bill is weakens my right to bargain collectively with my employer.

Show me that you are taking care of working Alaskans by voting no on HB 37.

Sincerely,

Steven Helkenn
HC 62 Box 5460
Delta Jct. AK 99737
Steven Helkenn

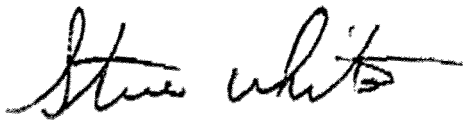
March 26, 2009

To the Committee on Labor and Commerce,

As a safety conscious worker I am glad that my union stands up for safety on the job site. A higher rate of workplace deaths, 51% has been seen in "Right to Work" states. The work we do here in Alaska is tough enough. We do not need to add more deaths. Safety on the job is everyone's concern. Please keep me and my fellow workers safe by voting NO on the "Right to Work" legislation. I would never vote for anyone who supported "Right to Work" in Alaska.

Sincerely,

Steve White



P.O. Box 770
Delta Junction AK 99737

March 26, 2009

To the Committee on Labor and Commerce,

I am appalled to hear that "Right to Work" legislation has reared its ugly head in Alaska again. Being a long time worker in this State I have always been happy with the wages I receive. Those wages do not make me a wealthy person. However, they do pay the bills. With increased heating bills and the cost of all goods I cannot believe that you would want to cut my wages. If you vote for this "Right to Work" legislation, you are doing exactly that, hurting the working men and women of Alaska.

Sincerely,

Jeremiah Marchwick
PO Box 1461
Delta Jct AK 99737



March 26, 2009

To the Committee on Labor and Commerce,

I am a long time Alaskan and this is my first letter to your committee. This bill coming before you concerning right to work legislation has me extremely upset. I live and work in Alaska because I know my wages and benefits reflect my work ethic. Now some people want to destroy all that with right to work. I am no fool, I know what substandard wages mean and workers' dignity goes right out the door. I hope that your committee can see this and vote against any right to work legislation.

Yours Truly,

Debra O'Leary

Debra O'Leary
PO BOX 7208
FBKS AK 99707

457-4490

DEAN COLBRAY
1114 LAKEVIEW TERRANCE
FAIRBANKS, AK 99707

March 26, 2009

To the House Labor and Commerce Committee:

I strongly urge you to oppose HB 37. Representative Gatto has introduced a "Right to Work" bill. I do not want the right to work for less money, I do not want the right to work for less health benefits, and I do not want the right to work in an unsafe environment. THANKS, BUT NO THANKS!

Vote NO on HB 37 for the sake of all working Alaskans.

Sincerely,

Dean M. Colbray

Dear Alaska Representative,

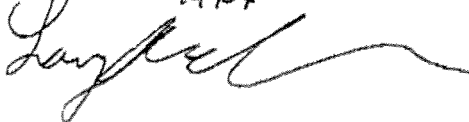
RE: VOTE NO ON HB 37

Today I am urging you to vote against House Bill 37 the so called "right to work for LESS" legislation. This bill takes away valuable resources from those union members who have invested hard work and dues, by forcing unions to provide benefits and representation for non dues paying free riders who are not willing to pay there fair share. This bill erodes the next generations' ability to collectively bargain a fair contract.

Right to work laws are not the answer. Please vote no on house bill 37.

Sincerely,

Larry Anderson
1112 29th ave #1
Fairbanks AK 99704



To the House Labor and Commerce Committee:

Can you tell me what are the new "rights" that workers will get under Representative Gatto's, HB37 "Right-to-Work" legislation?

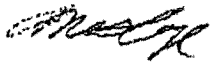
Other than creating a right-to-freeload, there aren't any new rights or real economic protections created under HB 37. It doesn't create a single new job and it doesn't guarantee workers a right to the jobs they now have.

What workers would get under HB37, are lower wages and fewer benefits, less public investment in education, declining health conditions and a lower standard of living.

If Representative Carl Gatto was truthful in this agenda behind this legislation, HB 37 would be named, "Right-to Wreck".

Alaskan workers deserve better than this, I strongly urge you to vote NO on House Bill 37.

Thank you for your time,



1425 W 27 St #7
Anchorage, AK 99503

Mickey
Cabbage

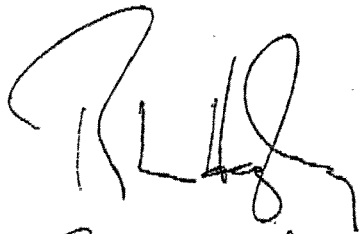
March 26, 2009

To the House Labor and Commerce Committee:

I very rarely, if ever, write letters to my representatives, but I must do so now. I do not believe there are representatives in our legislature who would introduce a bill such as HB 37. This so-called "right to work" bill does not give me any more right to work than I already have. This bill is weakens my right to bargain collectively with my employer.

Show me that you are taking care of working Alaskans by voting no on HB 37.

Sincerely,



ROBERT W. HAGBERG
3530 WEST 31ST AVE
ANCH AK 99517

March 26, 2009

To the Committee on Labor and Commerce,

As a safety conscious worker I am glad that my union stands up for safety on the job site. A higher rate of workplace deaths, 51% has been seen in "Right to Work" states. The work we do here in Alaska is tough enough. We do not need to add more deaths. Safety on the job is everyone's concern. Please keep me and my fellow workers safe by voting NO on the "Right to Work" legislation. I would never vote for anyone who supported "Right to Work" in Alaska.

Sincerely,



Steven Baskin
670 Winch Rd
Fairbank, AK

99712

To the House Labor and Commerce Committee:

Can you tell me what are the new "rights" that workers will get under Representative Gatto's, HB37 "Right-to-Work" legislation?

Other than creating a right-to-freeload, there aren't any new rights or real economic protections created under HB 37. It doesn't create a single new job and it doesn't guarantee workers a right to the jobs they now have.

What workers would get under HB37, are lower wages and fewer benefits, less public investment in education, declining health conditions and a lower standard of living.

If Representative Carl Gatto was truthful in this agenda behind this legislation, HB 37 would be named, "Right-to Wreck".

Alaskan workers deserve better than this, I strongly urge you to note NO on House Bill 37.

Thank you for your time,

Christina Bastin

670 Winch Rd
Fairbanks, AK
907-978-9971 2
3663

This happened in Oklahoma
and this only puts people out
OF WORK.

March 26, 2009

To the Committee on Labor and Commerce,

When I heard that "Right to Work" legislation had come to Alaska I thought it must be a joke. I felt we elected better representatives than that. It seems though that someone has introduced "Right to Work" legislation. I will do everything I can to make sure this is that individuals last cycle as a representative. Also anyone supporting this "Right to Work" legislation will have a bull's eye on their hopes for reelection. We as Alaskans cannot stand by and let something as ugly as "Right to Work" to dirty up our state.

Please do not support HB 37.

Sincerely,

Larry Starr
6460 Fuller Lk. Cir.
Wasilla, AK. 99654

Larry Starr

March 26, 2009

To the House Labor and Commerce Committee:

I very rarely, if ever, write letters to my representatives, but I must do so now. I do not believe there are representatives in our legislature who would introduce a bill such as HB 37. This so-called "right to work" bill does not give me any more right to work than I already have. This bill is weakens my right to bargain collectively with my employer.

Show me that you are taking care of working Alaskans by voting no on HB 37.

Sincerely,

Brian Ty Auvi

1213 Gull Rd

Fairbanks AK 99712



March 26, 2009

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Show me that you are taking care of working Alaskans by voting no on HB 37.

Sincerely,

Keith McGrew

1310 Berea Ct

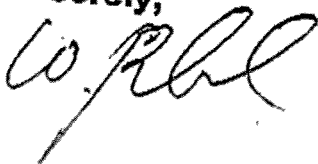
Keith P. McGrew

March 26, 2009

To the Committee on Labor and Commerce,

As a safety conscious worker I am glad that my union stands up for safety on the job site. A higher rate of workplace deaths, 51% has been seen in "Right to Work" states. The work we do here in Alaska is tough enough. We do not need to add more deaths. Safety on the job is everyone's concern. Please keep me and my fellow workers safe by voting NO on the "Right to Work" legislation. I would never vote for anyone who supported "Right to Work" in Alaska.

Sincerely,



William Redmond
1595 Festival Dr
Fairbanks, AK 99709

March 26, 2009

To the Committee on Labor and Commerce,

When I heard that "Right to Work" legislation had come to Alaska I thought it must be a joke. I felt we elected better representatives than that. It seems though that someone has introduced "Right to Work" legislation. I will do everything I can to make sure this is that individuals last cycle as a representative. Also anyone supporting this "Right to Work" legislation will have a bull's eye on their hopes for reelection. We as Alaskans cannot stand by and let something as ugly as "Right to Work" to dirty up our state.

Please do not support HB 37.

Sincerely,



Steve Sweet
1108 GALENA ST
FAIR BANKS, ALASKA 99709.

March 26, 2009

To the Committee on Labor and Commerce,

As a safety conscious worker I am glad that my union stands up for safety on the job site. A higher rate of workplace deaths, 51% has been seen in "Right to Work" states. The work we do here in Alaska is tough enough. We do not need to add more deaths. Safety on the job is everyone's concern. Please keep me and my fellow workers safe by voting NO on the "Right to Work" legislation. I would never vote for anyone who supported "Right to Work" in Alaska.

Sincerely,

London Moore
PO Box 19
Delta Jct. AK
99737

4-3-09

March 26, 2009

To the Committee on Labor and Commerce,

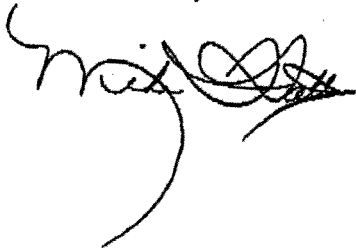
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Sincerely,

Mike Hatten

P.O.B. 1553

Soldotna, AK 99669



March 26, 2009

To the House Labor and Commerce Committee:

I very rarely, if ever, write letters to my representatives, but I must do so now. I do not believe there are representatives in our legislature who would introduce a bill such as HB 37. This so-called "right to work" bill does not give me any more right to work than I already have. This bill is weakens my right to bargain collectively with my employer.

Show me that you are taking care of working Alaskans by voting no on HB 37.

Sincerely,

LARRY HARWELL

Larry Harwell

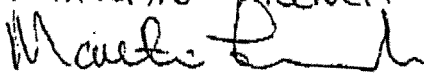
P.O. Box 1311

DELTA Jct. AK. 99737

March 26, 2009

To the Committee on Labor and Commerce,

I am appalled to hear that "Right to Work" legislation has reared its ugly head in Alaska again. Being a long time worker in this State I have always been happy with the wages I receive. Those wages do not make me a wealthy person. However, they do pay the bills. With increased heating bills and the cost of all goods I cannot believe that you would want to cut my wages. If you vote for this "Right to Work" legislation, you are doing exactly that, hurting the working men and women of Alaska.

Sincerely, MARTIN FRENCH


PO Box 846

DELTA Jct AK 99737


March 26, 2009

To the Committee on Labor and Commerce,

When I heard that "Right to Work" legislation had come to Alaska I thought it must be a joke. I felt we elected better representatives than that. It seems though that someone has introduced "Right to Work" legislation. I will do everything I can to make sure this is that individuals last cycle as a representative. Also anyone supporting this "Right to Work" legislation will have a bull's eye on their hopes for reelection. We as Alaskans cannot stand by and let something as ugly as "Right to Work" to dirty up our state.

Please do not support HB 37.

Sincerely,


Robert Meadows
P.O. Box 61180
Fairbanks, AK 99706

March 26, 2009

To the Committee on Labor and Commerce,

As a safety conscious worker I am glad that my union stands up for safety on the job site. A higher rate of workplace deaths, 51% has been seen in "Right to Work" states. The work we do here in Alaska is tough enough. We do not need to add more deaths. Safety on the job is everyone's concern. Please keep me and my fellow workers safe by voting NO on the "Right to Work" legislation. I would never vote for anyone who supported "Right to Work" in Alaska.

Sincerely,

Don Waldo
Donald E Waldo
PO Box 10
Delta AK 99737

March 26, 2009

To the Committee on Labor and Commerce,

When I heard that "Right to Work" legislation had come to Alaska I thought it must be a joke. I felt we elected better representatives than that. It seems though that someone has introduced "Right to Work" legislation. I will do everything I can to make sure this is that individuals last cycle as a representative. Also anyone supporting this "Right to Work" legislation will have a bull's eye on their hopes for reelection. We as Alaskans cannot stand by and let something as ugly as "Right to Work" to dirty up our state.

Please do not support HB 37.

Sincerely,

Mike Rosser Mike Rosser
P.O. Box 60603
Fairbanks, AK.
99706

March 26, 2009

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Sincerely,

Thomas Ziburis
Thomas Ziburis
HC 62 Box 5412
Delta Jct, AK
99737

March 26, 2009

To the House Labor and Commerce Committee:

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Show me that you are taking care of working Alaskans by voting no on HB 37.

Sincerely, Rob Williamson

Rob Williamson

2410 Butte ST
Delta Jct AK 99737

March 26, 2009

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Please do not support HB 37.

Sincerely,

Mike Finney

PO Box 1733 Delta Jct
99737

To the House Labor and Commerce Committee:

Can you tell me what are the new "rights" that workers will get under Representative Gatto's, HB37 "Right-to-Work" legislation?

Other than creating a right-to-free-load, there aren't any new rights or real economic protections created under HB 37. It doesn't create a single new job and it doesn't guarantee workers a right to the jobs they now have.

What workers would get under HB37, are lower wages and fewer benefits, less public investment in education, declining health conditions and a lower standard of living.

If Representative Carl Gatto was truthful in this agenda behind this legislation, HB 37 would be named, "Right-to Wreck".

Alaskan workers deserve better than this, I strongly urge you to vote NO on House Bill 37.

Thank you for your time,

Rodolfo Vaquera.

114 Concordia Dr.

Fairbanks, AK. 99709.

RE: Alaska House Bill 37

As a female union member, I oppose HB 37. Unions benefit *all* workers by raising wages for everyone, including women whose higher income helps to support their families. Right to work laws hurt women and their families by keeping wages low. According to the US bureau of Labor Statistics, female union members earn \$149 more each week than nonunion women. Union membership effectively narrows the pay gap between men and women and therefore allows for a more even field.

Additionally, right to work endangers safety and health standards that protect workers on the job by weakening unions that help to ensure safety by fighting for tougher safety rules. According to the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, the rate of workplace deaths is 51 percent higher in states with right to work, where unions are limited in the ability to speak up for workers.

Sincerely,

Arliss E. Tritt

Arliss E. Tritt

P.O. Box 82513

Fairbanks, AK
99708

Dear Alaskan Legislature

I am a union worker and registered voter in the state of Alaska. I wanted to bring some points to your attention about the upcoming vote on right to work legislation.

- Right to work makes it harder for unionized employers to compete for business. Many unions retain their membership in right to work states, although adding new bargaining units is made more difficult. This means that while unionized employers stay unionized, nonunion firms can remain unorganized and gain an even greater competitive advantage based on low-wage, no-benefit jobs.

- Unionized construction companies compete largely on the basis of better quality work because they provide more training, have fewer injuries on the job and are more productive. All these competitive advantages are threatened when low-road companies can drive down wages because of anti-union legislation.

- Right to work reduces consumer spending. Because union membership means higher wages, higher unionization within a community means consumers have more to spend. That's good for local companies, especially those in retail sales and services.

- Right to work brings government interference to private enterprise. A right to work law takes union security off the bargaining table. In effect, government limits the right of employers to set the terms and conditions of employment by telling companies and their workers what they can and can't bargain over. Labor and management should have the freedom to agree upon the conditions of work-without the government dictating to them.

Please do not interfere with private enterprise and vote NO on the right to work legislation.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Grady

Rebecca Grady

6427 E 10th Ave

Anchorage, ak 99504

To the Committee of Labor and Commerce,

I strongly urge you to oppose HB37, "Right to Work" Legislation.

I have been a resident of Alaska for many years and am appalled at this legislation.

I have watched "Right to Work" laws in other states; systematically lower wages, worker safety, and the economy.

"Right to Work" states consistently have higher poverty and infant mortality rates, less access to health care and poorer schools.

"Right to Work" laws do not guarantee any rights; instead they inhibit the right to organize. Right to Work statutes prohibit employers and unions from voluntarily negotiating a union security agreement.

For the reasons stated above and many more too numerous to, list I strongly urge you to oppose HB 37. This legislation is bad for Alaska and bad for the workers.

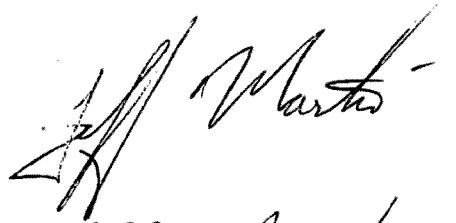
Sincerely,



JOHN D. BENNETT
1479 FARMERS LOOP ROAD
FAIRBANKS, AK 99709

To the Committee on Labor and Commerce,

Please do not support HB 37. Rise in workplace injuries, poverty level wages and loss of medical benefits are what happens in states with "Right to Work" laws. Why would you want to do that to your fellow Alaskans? Unions support working people-who do you support? If you approve this bill, you certainly do not support the workers that voted for you in the election.


Jeff Martin

277 Pearl Dr
Fairbank AK
99712

To the Committee of Labor and Commerce:

I strongly urge you to oppose HB37, "Right to Work" Legislation.

As a longtime Alaskan resident and worker, this legislation infuriates me.

Statistics have shown that states that have enacted right-to-work laws, their workers (on the average) earn less money, have less health care, pensions, and retirement benefits, but they **do** have higher workplace injuries and deaths.

Because wages are held down, right-to-work states consistently have higher poverty and infant mortality rates, less access to healthcare, and poorer schools. Additionally, by suppressing union membership, women and minorities are hit hardest in right-to-work states.

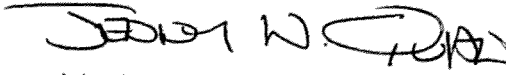
Workers who don't want to join a union are already fully protected by Federal law. Federal law provides that no worker can be forced to join a union, and nonunion workers cannot be forced to pay for union activities that violate their religious or political beliefs. If an employer and union enter into a voluntary union security contract, a covered worker simply has to share the basic cost of representation.

In summary, Right -to-Work does not grant worker rights; it simply takes them away.

Working Alaskans deserve better than this from our legislators!

I strongly urge you to oppose HB 37.

Sincerely,


1601 MARILYN ROAD #9
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99709-4329

Dear Alaska legislator,

RE: HB 37, Right-to-Work-for-less, and HB 185, the anti-Project Labor Agreement bill

This is an important issue that impacts everyone. Right to work laws benefit only employers who want to pay less and violate worker rights, ignore safety standards, and generally screw their employees at will. It is important to remember that in places with a strong union presence, wages, benefits, and work conditions tend to be better even for nonunion workers.

If I wanted to live in Mississippi I'd move to Mississippi, a right to work state where over half of all single family homes are trailers and the school system ranks dead last in the nation. Is that what we want for Alaska? Loads of low wage jobs and the decline in tax revenue that goes with them will lower the quality of our schools, make it harder to maintain our infrastructure, and negatively impact services such as public safety. Demand for public services like food stamps, Medicaid, heating assistance and many others will rise.

Alaskans economic woes will not be solved by impoverishing the middle class.

Republican politicians moan about taxes taking money out of consumers' pockets. They don't mind when employers do it, though.

Sincerely,



KEVIN MAHER

P O BOX 85169
FAIRBANKS AK
99709

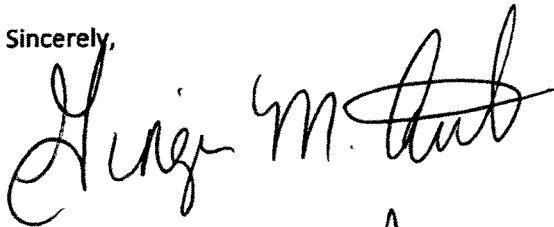
Dear Alaska legislator,

RE: HB 37, Right-to-Work-for-less, and HB 185, the anti-Project Labor Agreement bill

Just when I thought our legislature couldn't get anymore off-base we see a 'right to work' bill from Rep. Carl Gatto. This terrible legislation when passed in other states leads to all wages being lowered. He may mean this as an attack on unions, but it will affect us all! Right to Work states are amongst the lowest wage states in the nation.

I work hard and it is expensive to live in Alaska. The last thing I need is someone trying to lower my wages. I think the legislature should get back to real issues like affordable energy and helping us survive this economic downturn, not cook up more ways to make us suffer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ginger M. Attra".

GINGER M. ATTRA

P.O. Box 58

HUSLIA, AK 99746

To the State of Alaska Legislature

As a women union worker and voter in the state of Alaska I am disgusted at the thought of our legislature even thinking about passing the current right to work legislation. I demand that you vote no on this hurtful legislation. To quote the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Current Population Survey, January 2002:

Right to Work and Women

Unions benefit all workers by raising wages for everyone, including women whose higher incomes help support their families. Right to work laws hurt women and their families by keeping wages low.

- Union women earn \$149 more each week than nonunion women.
- Union membership narrows the pay gap for women. Nationally, the gap between men's and women's pay is 32 percent—but between all men and union women the gap is only 5 percent.

Please Vote NO and help me support my family.

Sincerely

Disgusted Voter Fairbanks North Star Borough

Rebekah Woodman

1804 Roberts Rd.

Fairbanks, Ak. 99709

Rebekah Woodman

March 26, 2009

Jonna Weed
P.O. Box 70465
Fairbanks, AK 99707

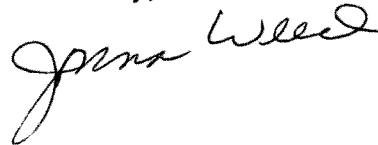
Attn: House Labor and Commerce Committee

Please do not support House Bill 37. I cannot understand why Representative Gatto does not just come right out and say that he is trying to get rid of Unions. Having to represent people that do not pay their fair share is just another way to bankrupt the unions.

The majority of union members are Alaskan residents, they stay here all year long, vote here and contribute to the State's economy all year. Without unions people would come to Alaska and take all the jobs because they are willing to work for less and no benefits. Pretty soon Alaska would be a poverty state just like all the "Right to Work" states.

Our State needs a stable economy with Alaskans working, not one that sees all our income going to the "lower 48."

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jonna Weed". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

March 25, 2009

RE: Alaska House Bill 37 Right-to-Work

Please do not support Representative Gatto's HB 37, a Right-to-Work bill. In states that have passed right to work bills, worker safety statistics show more accidents and workers are paid less. Organizations supporting right to work laws are run and controlled by big business. I'd like to promote freedom in Alaska to organize and better myself in my job.

HB 37 is not designed to protect and help workers. It will do exactly the opposite.

Thank you.

Thomas Mulligan

Sincerely,

Thomas Mulligan

1838 Rozak Road

North Pole AK 99705

To the Committee of Labor and Commerce:

I strongly urge you to oppose HB37, "Right to Work" Legislation.

I am a lifelong Alaskan worker and resident I am offended by this "Right-to-Work-For-Less" legislation sponsored by Representative Gatto.

- Right-to-Work laws do not guarantee any right; instead they inhibit the right to organize. Right-to-work statutes prohibit employers and unions from voluntarily negotiating a union security agreement. A union security agreement requires employee who benefit from the union's representation to pay dues, sharing the cost of union negotiations, contract administrations, and other union-provided job services.
- Right-to-Work laws are deliberately designed to financially cripple the union movement. Right-to-work laws are actually intended to discourage workers from joining a union or paying any dues, because they offer workers a deal that undermine worker solidarity- you don't have to pay dues, but you still get all the union services_ for free. Federal law requires unions to represent nonmembers; so dues-paying union members are forced to subsidize union services for the "free riders"
- Federal Laws already ensure that no worker can be forced to join a union, and a non-union worker cannot be forced to pay for union activities that violate their political or religious views.

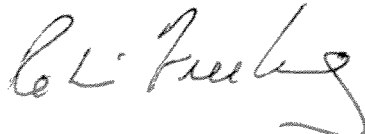
This legislation is nothing more that a *retaliatory attack* aimed at organized labor, by "Big Business" supported legislators.

HB 37 does not grant or protect worker rights; it simply takes them away and weakens Alaska's economy.

As a working and voting resident of Alaska, I strongly urge you to oppose HB 37.

Sincerely,

ROBIN FREELONG
1266 HAYES AVENUE
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99709

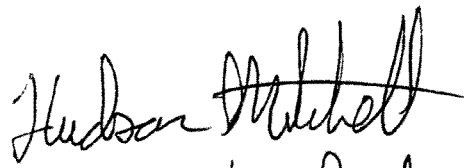


To the Committee on Labor and Commerce,

When I heard that "Right to Work" legislation had come to Alaska I thought it must be a joke. I felt we elected better representatives than that. It seems though that someone has introduced "Right to Work" legislation. I will do everything I can to make sure this is that individuals last cycle as a representative. Also anyone supporting this "Right to Work" legislation will have a bull's eye on their hopes for reelection. We as Alaskans cannot stand by and let something as ugly as "Right to Work" to dirty up our state.

Please do not support HB 37.

Sincerely,


360 Thunder Road
Fox AK, 99715

To the Committee on Labor and Commerce,

Workers need to band together to speak on their behalf. No one person can bargain for themselves as effectively as a large group of people. Unions are made up of people banding together for the benefit of all. Without a Union to speak and bargain for us we would slowly lose wages and benefits like any other "Right to Work" state. Alaska is independent and not should not be treated like just any other state. Please do not support HB 37.

Michael Flint Reynolds
P.O. Box 83721 Fairbanks AK 99708
Michael Flint Reynolds

RE: Alaska House Bill 37

I am distressed by Rep. Gatto's Right to Work legislation. New industries and economic development are not promoted by any "right to work" legislation. Companies locate in certain states for a multitude of reasons. If a company does consider locating in a state because of this legislation it's more likely a result of the ability to pay less in wages and benefits. According to the US Bureau of Labor Statistics weekly wages are \$72 greater in free-bargaining states than in right to work states. Purposely enacting laws that effectively lower wages and benefits in order to lure new business is not a sound economic plan for Alaska, and considering our geographic location, quite unrealistic. Don't "fix" it if it's not broken.

Sincerely,

Gerald F. Carney
Gerald F. Carney

P.O. Box 70476
Fairbanks, AK, 99707

March 25, 2009

To the House Labor and Commerce Committee:

I strongly urge you to oppose HB 37. This legislation has been introduced as a "Right to Work" bill. So if passed, I will have the right to work for less wages, the right to work for less health benefits, and the right to work in an unsafe environment. NO THANK YOU!

For the sake of all working Alaskans, vote no on HB 37.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nick Tureanu". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Nick Tureanu
1516 27TH AVE #1
FAIR BANKS, AK. 99701

Dear Alaskan Legislature

I am a union worker and registered voter in the state of Alaska. I wanted to bring some points to your attention about the upcoming vote on right to work legislation.

- Right to work makes it harder for unionized employers to compete for business. Many unions retain their membership in right to work states, although adding new bargaining units is made more difficult. This means that while unionized employers stay unionized, nonunion firms can remain unorganized and gain an even greater competitive advantage based on low-wage, no-benefit jobs.
- Unionized construction companies compete largely on the basis of better quality work because they provide more training, have fewer injuries on the job and are more productive. All these competitive advantages are threatened when low-road companies can drive down wages because of anti-union legislation.
- Right to work reduces consumer spending. Because union membership means higher wages, higher unionization within a community means consumers have more to spend. That's good for local companies, especially those in retail sales and services.
- Right to work brings government interference to private enterprise. A right to work law takes union security off the bargaining table. In effect, government limits the right of employers to set the terms and conditions of employment by telling companies and their workers what they can and can't bargain over. Labor and management should have the freedom to agree upon the conditions of work-without the government dictating to them.

Please do not interfere with private enterprise and vote NO on the right to work legislation.

Sincerely,

Kayla Watson
482 Slater Dr. Apt. A
Fairbanks Alaska

99201
Kayla Watson
3-26-09

RE: Alaska House Bill 37

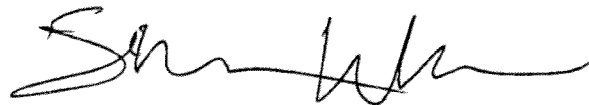
In response to Rep Gatto's *right to work* legislation I'd like to set the record straight, as I interpret it, right to work doesn't guarantee any rights. In fact, by weakening unions and collective bargaining, it destroys the best job security protection that exists: the union contract. Meanwhile, it allows workers to pay nothing and get all the same benefits as I do as a union member. Right to work laws say unions must represent all eligible employees, whether they pay dues or not. This forces unions to use their time and members' dues money to provide union benefits to free riders who are not willing to pay their fair share. Right to Work laws are not the answer.

Sincerely,

Shane Wright

2610 CLucky Law CT.

Fairbanks, AK 99709

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Shane Wright', with a stylized, cursive script.

March 25, 2009

RE: Alaska House Bill 37 Right-to-Work

HB 37, introduced by Representative Gatto, is a Right-to-Work bill that means anything but. I support the freedom of workers to protect themselves, and to organize and better their lives. HB 37 would set Alaska back years in employee rights. Right-to-work laws often create free riders, workers who benefit from union contracts without having to pay for union benefits and they are proven to weaken unions. Unions are the best tool employees have to protect themselves from being taken advantage of.

I strongly oppose any law that weakens my right to collectively bargain for better working conditions with all of my fellow workers working together. This bill creates division. It doesn't create unity in the workplace.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Vincent Eickholt

1577 gunning dr Fairbanks AK 99712

Vincent Eickholt

To the Committee of Labor and Commerce,

I strongly urge you to oppose HB37, "Right to Work" Legislation.

I have been a resident of Alaska for many years and am appalled at this legislation.

I have watched "Right to Work" laws in other states; systematically lower wages, worker safety, and the economy.

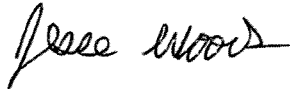
"Right to Work" states consistently have higher poverty and infant mortality rates, less access to health care and poorer schools.

"Right to Work" laws do not guarantee any rights; instead they inhibit the right to organize. Right to Work statutes prohibit employers and unions from voluntarily negotiating a union security agreement.

For the reasons stated above and many more too numerous to, list I strongly urge you to oppose HB 37. This legislation is bad for Alaska and bad for the workers.

Sincerely,

Jesse Woods



5101 Electra Ave

Fairbanks AK 99701

March 26, 2009

To The Committee on Labor and Commerce:

In my opinion, "Right to Work" just means the right to work for less. Good wages and good benefits are the only thing that keeps me working outside at -50. It make me very angry that some anti-union Representative is trying to attack the unions. Please do not support HB37.

Zachary T. Gonzalez

P.O. Box 82935 Fbks, AK 99708



To the Committee on Labor and Commerce,

Workers need to band together to speak on their behalf. No one person can bargain for themselves as effectively as a large group of people. Unions are made up of people banding together for the benefit of all. Without a Union to speak and bargain for us we would slowly lose wages and benefits like any other "Right to Work" state. Alaska is independent and not should not be treated like just any other state. Please do not support HB 37.

Jordan Weed

Jordan Weed

PO Box 20465

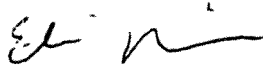
*Fairbanks, AK
99707*

Dear Alaska legislator,

RE: HB 37, Right-to-Work-for-less, and HB 185, the anti-Project Labor Agreement bill

I think it is amazing that Representative Carl Gatto can bring up a bill in the Legislature that would result in Alaskans pay being reduced. So called 'right to work' bills are actually 'right to work for less bills'. In the states where these bill have passed pay for ALL workers goes down. In today's economy, the last thing we need is a bill that lowers the pay of hard working Alaskans. Maybe some of those Wall Street guys deserve a pay cut, but I sure don't.

Sincerely,



Eli Nicholas

2222 Solar Ave.

Fairbanks, Ak. 99709

3/26/09

To the Committee on Labor and Commerce,

I hope you are seriously not considering the right to work legislation that has been introduced to your committee. Alaska does not need to go the way of the right to work states in the lower forty eight. Those workers are constantly coming to Alaska for the good jobs and wages we have because their right to work state has gone into the dumpster. Workers have the choice to join a union here in Alaska keep it fair to those workers by not forcing the union to provide benefits to non dues paying members. That makes no sense, do the right thing NO to right to work for less in Alaska.

Sincerely,

Kelle Lynn Montgomery

KELLE MONTGOMERY
1290 NORTH HUBNERITE
FAIRBANKS, AK 99712
907-457-1889

March 25, 2009

RE: Alaska House Bill 37 Right-to-Work

Alaska Representative Gatto has introduced HB 37, a right to work bill, that would set Alaska back years in employee freedom and rights. Right to work provisions weaken the rights of employees and strengthen the ability of employers to reduce wages and benefits. Please help defeat this bill.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Joshua Burks

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JB' with a large loop and a horizontal line extending to the left.

3212 Riverview Dr.
FBKS, AK, 99709

To the Committee on Labor and Commerce,

As a safety conscious worker I am glad that my union stands up for safety on the job site. A higher rate of workplace deaths, 51% has been seen in "Right to Work" states. The work we do here in Alaska is tough enough. We do not need to add more deaths. Safety on the job is everyone's concern. Please keep me and my fellow workers safe by voting NO on the "Right to Work" legislation. I would never vote for anyone who supported "Right to Work" in Alaska.

Sincerely,

James Johnson
James Johnson
1003 Kodiak,
FBKS, Alaska
99701

To the Committee of Labor and Commerce:

I strongly urge you to oppose HB37, "Right to Work" Legislation.

As a longtime Alaskan resident and worker, this legislation infuriates me.

Statistics have shown that states that have enacted right-to-work laws, their workers (on the average) earn less money, have less health care, pensions, and retirement benefits, but they do have higher workplace injuries and deaths.

Because wages are held down, right-to-work states consistently have higher poverty and infant mortality rates, less access to healthcare, and poorer schools. Additionally, by suppressing union membership, women and minorities are hit hardest in right-to-work states.

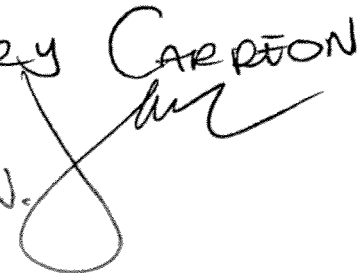
Workers who don't want to join a union are already fully protected by Federal law. Federal law provides that no worker can be forced to join a union, and nonunion workers cannot be forced to pay for union activities that violate their religious or political beliefs. If an employer and union enter into a voluntary union security contract, a covered worker simply has to share the basic cost of representation.

In summary, Right -to-Work does not grant worker rights; it simply takes them away.

Working Alaskans deserve better than this from our legislators!

I strongly urge you to oppose HB 37.

Sincerely,

JEFFREY CARPENTON


2668 SHADY LN.
NORTH POLE
AK 99705


Dear Alaska legislator,

RE: HB 37, Right-to-Work-for-less, and HB 185, the anti-Project Labor Agreement bill

Just when I thought our legislature couldn't get anymore off-base we see a 'right to work' bill from Rep. Carl Gatto. This terrible legislation when passed in other states leads to all wages being lowered. He may mean this as an attack on unions, but it will affect us all! Right to Work states are amongst the lowest wage states in the nation.

I work hard and it is expensive to live in Alaska. The last thing I need is someone trying to lower my wages. I think the legislature should get back to real issues like affordable energy and helping us survive this economic downturn, not cook up more ways to make us suffer.

Sincerely,


Lloyd V. Charlie
P.O. Box 49
Minto, Alaska
99758

Dear Alaskan Legislature

'Right to Work' States Are Really Restricted Rights States. 'Right to Work': It's not a right to a job—it's a free ride. "Right to work" has nothing to do with a right to a job or employment. The deceptively named "right to work" laws ban workers—who by a majority vote decided to form a union in their workplace—and employers from negotiating union security clauses.

By law, unions must represent all workers—members and nonmembers—in contract negotiations and other workplace issues. A union security clause does not force workers to join a union but simply means they must pay a fair share for the economic benefits they receive because of union representation—such as health insurance, pensions and wages that are on average better than those for nonunion workers.

A "right to work" law would allow nonmember workers to get all the benefits of union membership and pay nothing, while forcing unions and their members to foot the bill for those not willing to pay their share. The result is weaker unions with inadequate re-sources to represent members.

In the 28 non-"right to work" states, federal law protects those workers who do not want to join the union. Workers in those states are required to pay only a fair share to cover the costs of their union representation, but not the cost of a union's political, legislative, social or charitable activities.

I personally joined the union because I could not make a living working for the big businesses that only wanted to pay minimum wage, which has not kept up with inflation, but has kept up with the wishes of big business plans of keeping wages low while they reap in the profits. I joined the union for the protection it offers and willingly pay my dues so that I have someone big enough to fight for my rights and my well being. What will I tell my newborn son about why I cannot get him food because I have no voice to keep my wage up at a level that I can afford to go to the store and buy him food? I worry about this everyday now that there is talk of right to work legislation. I look at other right to work states and see the high amounts of unemployment the high amounts of people on welfare, and worry that Alaska will soon fall to the pressures of outside influences. We have defeated many attacks on Alaska before and I strongly hope you will defeat this vicious attack on our great state's economy. Alaska laws are strong and to the point already and don't need to be changed to help the Big corporations. Isn't this the last frontier? Let's keep our state and our workers safe and vote NO on the right to work legislation.

Sincerely,



David Brasier

Proud Union and Alaskan Voter for 33 years

796 Badger Rd

North Pole, AK

99705

March 25, 2009

RE: Vote NO on HB 37

I urge you to oppose HB 37. HB 37, a so-called "Right to Work" bill, will reduce Alaskans' wages and jeopardize employer-provided health care. States with this legislation have seen such reductions in their workers' wages.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

KEVIN D. KNOX
Kevin D. Knox

455 3RD. Ave. Apt. # 320
FAIRBANKS, AK. 99701

March 25, 2009

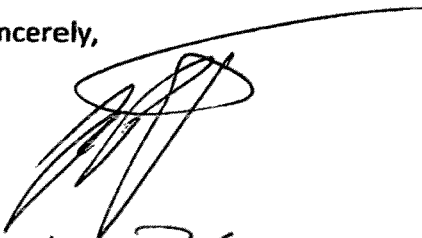
To the House Labor and Commerce Committee:

I ask you to vote no on HB 37. I do not understand why this legislation is called "Right to Work." The declaration of policy states that this bill will "maximize my individual freedom of choice in pursuit of employment" and my right to work will not be restricted or based on my decision to join a union. I already have this freedom and choice. I have never been denied employment because of union affiliation or my refusal to join a union.

Whose interest is this bill trying to protect? Is it the interests of the Alaskan working people or the interests of big business?

Show your support for working Alaskans by voting no on HB 37.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John P. Garrity". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "J" and "G".

JOHN P GARRITY
1024 57th AVE
FAIRBANKS, AK 99701

To the Committee on Labor and Commerce,

Over the years states that have adopted "Right to Work" legislation have seen the average wage for workers go down. Big Business would like nothing better than to have Unions out of the pictures. Without Unions to speak for us we would be reduced to the poverty level of other Right to Work states. Please vote against HB37

Hazel M. Beatus
1119 Merganser St.
Fairbanks, AK 99709

Hazel M. Beatus 3/26/09

March 25, 2009

RE: Alaska House Bill 37 Right-to-Work

HB 37, introduced by Representative Gatto, is a Right-to-Work bill that means anything but. I support the freedom of workers to protect themselves, and to organize and better their lives. HB 37 would set Alaska back years in employee rights. Right-to-work laws often create free riders, workers who benefit from union contracts without having to pay for union benefits and they are proven to weaken unions. Unions are the best tool employees have to protect themselves from being taken advantage of.

I strongly oppose any law that weakens my right to collectively bargain for better working conditions with all of my fellow workers working together. This bill creates division. It doesn't create unity in the workplace.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jimmy Newton Jr.", written in a cursive style.

Jimmy Newton Jr

338 Shannon Drive
Fairbanks, Alaska
99701

March 25, 2009

To the House Labor and Commerce Committee:

I strongly urge you to oppose HB 37. This legislation has been introduced as a "Right to Work" bill. So if passed, I will have the right to work for less wages, the right to work for less health benefits, and the right to work in an unsafe environment. NO THANK YOU!

For the sake of all working Alaskans, vote no on HB 37.

Sincerely, DAREL WILLIAMS



224 BARGNOFF ST
FBKS, AK 99701,

To the Committee of Labor and Commerce,

I strongly urge you to oppose HB37, "Right to Work" Legislation.

I have been a resident of Alaska for many years and am appalled at this legislation.

I have watched "Right to Work" laws in other states; systematically lower wages, worker safety, and the economy.

"Right to Work" states consistently have higher poverty and infant mortality rates, less access to health care and poorer schools.

"Right to Work" laws do not guarantee any rights; instead they inhibit the right to organize. Right to Work statutes prohibit employers and unions from voluntarily negotiating a union security agreement.

For the reasons stated above and many more too numerous to, list I strongly urge you to oppose HB 37. This legislation is bad for Alaska and bad for the workers.

Sincerely,

Billy Rosen
Bill Rosen

1600 Washington dr. Apt (A-2)
Fairbanks Ak, 99709

RE: Alaska House Bill 37

Rep. Gatto has introduced right to work legislation which has galvanized me, and many like me into action. Right to work laws will not improve Alaska's overall business atmosphere.

Conversely, it will create an environment in which businesses profits will increase because of lower wages but that's not a positive solution for the workers involved. When wages fall, state revenues from income and sales tax will also fall. In effect the state has far less funding available to finance education, transportation, and other programs that are vital to attracting new industries and businesses that are often times already hurting.

Sincerely,

Jonathan S. Polansky
Jonathan S. Polansky

P.O. 71582

Fbks, Apt 99707

March 25, 2009

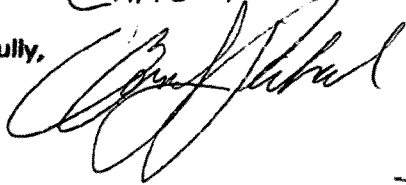
RE: House Bill 37 Right-to-Work

Please oppose HB 37. HB 37, a so-called "Right to Work" bill. If signed into law, HB 37 will turn Alaska into a "right to work" state. This kind of legislation, when introduced in other states, has a proven track record of weakening unions, reducing wage, and harming small businesses.

Thank you.

Chris Poland

Respectfully,



3553 Go thatta way north pole
AK 99705

Dear Alaska legislator,

RE: HB 37, Right-to-Work-for-less, and HB 185, the anti-Project Labor Agreement bill

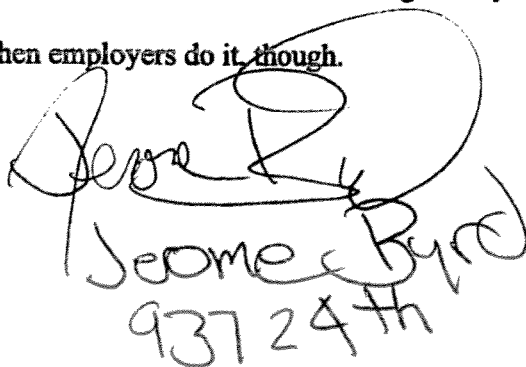
This is an important issue that impacts everyone. Right to work laws benefit only employers who want to pay less and violate worker rights, ignore safety standards, and generally screw their employees at will. It is important to remember that in places with a strong union presence, wages, benefits, and work conditions tend to be better even for nonunion workers.

If I wanted to live in Mississippi I'd move to Mississippi, a right to work state where over half of all single family homes are trailers and the school system ranks dead last in the nation. Is that what we want for Alaska? Loads of low wage jobs and the decline in tax revenue that goes with them will lower the quality of our schools, make it harder to maintain our infrastructure, and negatively impact services such as public safety. Demand for public services like food stamps, Medicaid, heating assistance and many others will rise.

Alaskans economic woes will not be solved by impoverishing the middle class.

Republican politicians moan about taxes taking money out of consumers' pockets. They don't mind when employers do it, though.

Sincerely,



Jerome Byrd
937 24th