

Message Guidance Regarding “So Called” Right to Work in New Hampshire

Right to Work is WRONG for New Hampshire. It’s wrong for our families, it’s wrong for first responders, nurses, teachers and frontline workers who spent this year battling the coronavirus pandemic and who deserve a voice on the job. These bills are written by out-of-state millionaires and billionaires who work with extreme politicians here in New Hampshire and don’t care if you live in a union household or a non-union household because Right to Work lowers wages for all families. Workers who live in Right to Work states can make up to \$5,000 less per year than folks who do the same job in Non-Right to Work states.

Below is some guidance for how to talk about the Right to Work Fight in our State

- ✓ Right to Work is an attack on ALL families in New Hampshire
- ✓ Right to Work is not the way we do things in New Hampshire. It cripples our fundamental right to join together, stick together and have a meaningful voice in the workplace.
- ✓ Right to work is a distraction from what we sent our elected officials to Concord to do.
- ✓ Right to Work is government intrusion in the workplace
- ✓ Right to Work does NOT create jobs
- ✓ Right to Work suppresses wages
- ✓ Right to Work hurts the frontline workers who put their lives on the line to keep us safe during the coronavirus outbreak
- ✓ Companies looking to relocate in our state aren’t even looking for Right to Work legislation
- ✓ Right to Work HARMS the things that companies DO look for when thinking about relocation
- ✓ Right to Work will make economic recovery more difficult in New Hampshire
- ✓ RTW backers talk about “freedom” to deceive us. Right to Work isn’t about freedom at all
- ✓ **No one can be legally forced to join a union**

Background:

RTW is an attack on all New Hampshire Families: The out-of-state millionaires and billionaires who are working with extreme politicians here in New Hampshire to push Right to Work don’t care if you live in a union household or a non-union household because Right to Work lowers wages for all families. Workers who live in Right to Work states can make up to \$5,000 less per year than folks who do the same job in Non-Right to Work states.

RTW is not the way we do things in New Hampshire. It cripples our fundamental right to join together, stick together and have a meaningful voice in the workplace: We have a tradition here in New Hampshire of strong communities who take care of one another. Right to Work means we won’t have the freedom to “have each other’s backs” and bargain with our employers as we see fit.

RTW is a distraction from what we sent our elected officials to Concord to do: RTW backers should focus on creating good jobs and helping communities overcome the coronavirus pandemic instead of trying to lower wages during the worst economic slump in a century.

RTW is Government Intrusion in the Workplace: Right-wing politicians like to talk a big game about freedom and the free market, but the fact is RTW is the government telling people like you and me how

we can and can't negotiate with our bosses. Government should stay out of private contracts and let us work together with our workplaces to create a safe, stable and skilled workforce with good jobs. Apparently our freedoms end where big checks from out-of-state millionaires and billionaires begin.

Making New Hampshire a Right to Work state will not create jobs: Historically, Right to Work states have had higher levels of unemployment than non-RTW states. Don't take our word for it, even people who work for the National Right to Work Committee say it won't create jobs. Stanley Greer, a spokesman for the National Right to Work Committee has admitted that, "We're not purporting to prove that right-to-work produces superior economic performance."

Companies looking for new places to locate are not looking for Right to Work legislation: Employers admit RTW is not important. According to annual surveys of manufacturers by Area Development magazine, RTW never ranked in the top 10 factors influencing location decisions.

Right to Work HARMS the things that companies DO look for when thinking about relocation: Businesses look for a highly skilled workforce capable of doing the job before anything else. RTW laws undermine union training and apprenticeship programs. Many unions train workers at their own expense. RTW removes the funding sources of well-respected training and apprenticeship programs that benefit business and the entire community.

RTW backers talk about "freedom" to deceive us. Right to Work isn't about freedom at all: The same people who support Right to Work also support moving workers into part-time positions. The same people who support Right to Work also support Offshoring profits and shipping jobs to countries with subpar working conditions. The same people who support Right to Work support breaking down laws that protect our health and safety on the job. None of these things are about freedom, they are about maximizing profits for the wealthiest people in the nation. So is Right to Work.

No one can be legally forced to join a union: The Supreme Court of the United States has already protected Americans from being forced to join anything. It is the law of the land. Right to Work is about silencing your voice and mine so we can't speak out about mistreatment at work.