

“RIGHT-TO-WORK” IS

WRONG

Across the country, billionaire CEOs and corporations are orchestrating an attack on your rights to form unions and advocate for the students and citizens you serve. They claim that so-called “right-to-work” laws benefit employees, businesses, and our communities, but that is simply false. Research proves that “right-to-work” laws drive down wages, benefits, and the overall standard of living for workers and their families. They aren’t trying to protect you. They only want to bust unions and get richer.

Don’t be fooled. Here are the FACTS about why “right-to-work” is simply wrong.

WRONG FOR EMPLOYEES

These laws drive down wages for all workers, including non-union members.

Workers living in “right-to-work” states earn about \$1,500 less per year than workers in states without these laws, according to the Economic Policy Institute (EPI). The wage penalty is even higher for women and workers of color.

EPI also found that workers in “right-to-work” states are less likely to have health insurance.

The rate of employer-sponsored health insurance for workers in “right-to-work” states is 2.6% lower than in states without these harmful restrictions.

WRONG FOR THE ECONOMY

Communities lose jobs when wages are lowered by “right-to-work.” The Economic Policy Institute estimates that for every \$1 million in wage cuts, the local economy sheds six jobs.

“Right-to-work” does not improve the employment rate. In fact, eight of the 12 states with the highest unemployment have “right-to-work” laws, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

According to a report from Ohio University, **these laws actually led to a decrease in employment in certain industries.**

WRONG FOR BUSINESSES

According to the *Review of Law and Economics*, **“right-to-work” laws were not shown to improve business conditions in states.**

“Right-to-work” is not a deciding factor in where businesses locate, according to a 2011 report from Area Development, a site and facility planning website.

According to the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation (ITIF), **high-tech companies that provide good-paying, American jobs favor states where unions have a strong presence,** because unions provide a highly skilled workforce and decrease turnover.



Illinois Federation of Teachers
A Union of Professionals

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