

~ The John Smith Co. ~

Date

Congressman
Address
City, State, Zip

Dear [Name]:

As an employee of a Wisconsin-based employer, I strongly urge you to oppose the Employee Free Choice Act (H.R.1409/S.560), or any other effort to eliminate workers' rights to a private ballot when deciding to form a union. The misnamed Employee Free Choice Act threatens our economic competitiveness and will cost manufacturing jobs in Wisconsin.

This bill would replace the current process of private ballot union representation elections with a system called "card check," which exposes employees to coercion by union organizers and their peers. During the card-check process, employees are asked to publicly sign cards that indicate support of a union. This is a process that invites intimidation and threats in the workplace. When making the important decision to form a union, employees deserve privacy and freedom from outside influence.

If passed, this legislation would also impose an artificial timeline for finalizing the first labor contract to be completed after a union is certified. Under this system, a federal arbitrator could dictate the terms of the contract, including wages, benefits and work rules without the workers' having an opportunity to approve the contract.

This bill invites intimidation and coercion, and leads to widespread disenfranchisement of workers by eliminating their right to a secret ballot. Secret ballot elections are the foundation of America's democratic process and workers deserve no less. This legislation will hinder economic growth and threaten our economy's ability to create and retain jobs.

I respectfully urge you to oppose this legislation when it comes before Congress. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John Smith