

Tom DeLay  
Majority Leader

January 8, 2003

Dear Friend,

It is with great urgency that I send you the enclosed invitation and ask that you RSVP to it today.

Your invitation asks you to support an urgent new project to halt a shameless attempt by the Big Labor Bosses to expand their power at the expense of our homeland security and troops overseas.

Its purpose is to prevent the Big Labor Bosses from cynically exploiting the ongoing war on terror and the struggle against Iraq to expand their power over America's work force...

... and I'll explain why its mission is so very important to America's economic and military security in a moment.

But first, please check "YES" or "NO" on the enclosed RSVP.

Then use the pre-addressed return envelope to mail it back without delay.

If your answer is "NO," I will understand. But I will also be very disappointed and deeply concerned.

Why? Because the union bosses' selfish drive to use the national emergencies we face today to grab more power, presents a clear-and-present-danger to the security of the United States at home and the safety of our Armed Forces overseas...

... and here's how and why.

As our nation wages a campaign to crush the worldwide terrorist network, the Big Labor Bosses of the AFL-CIO and other major unions are all talking a good game about "national unity."

But behind the scenes, they are exploiting the war effort to quietly grab more power and control over America's economy and workforce. Shocking? Yes. But not surprising, given the history of how Big Labor notoriously exploited the Second World War and other times of crisis to expand dramatically its power at the expense of the war effort.

Before World War II, only 20 percent of unionized employees were governed by contracts that required forced union dues payments as a condition of employment.

By 1942 that percentage shot up to 60 percent, and by 1947 it was at a whopping 78 percent.

How and why did that happen?

It happened because, as the government became more deeply involved in key defense-related industries, the union bosses realized that their leverage increased along with the nation's war needs.

They therefore instigated numerous violent and crippling strikes that gave a sympathetic President, Franklin Roosevelt, the excuse he needed to give the union bosses the power they craved.

For the sake of "labor peace," Roosevelt created the biased National War Labor Board (NWLB), giving the Big Labor Bosses authority over just about every industry in wartime America.

Of course, "labor peace" never did truly develop during the war, as the number of strikes rose 26 percent in 1943, 32 percent in 1944, and declined by only four percent in 1945.

Nevertheless, history is now repeating itself as the union bosses strive to use the war on terror as cover for a new drive for power.

Examples? They are as numerous as they are sickening:

- \*\* As the World Trade Center and Pentagon still smoldered, high-paid union lobbyists convinced Democrat Senators Ted Kennedy and Hillary Rodham Clinton to try ramming through legislation to force the nation's firefighters and policemen to accept union bosses as their exclusive workplace spokesmen.
  
- \*\* Thanks to pro-worker Senators and grassroots activists, this despicable effort narrowly failed. But Harold Schaitberger, president of the AFL-CIO's Firefighters Union vowed, "We will be back with a vengeance."

- \*\* At the same time, union bosses launched a wave of crippling strikes, the largest of which was in Minnesota, where union bosses ordered a massive 23,000-strong strike by government employees just as state officials were trying to deal with serious life-and-death health and security concerns.
- \*\* Also, at the same time, the still intact Clinton National Labor Relations Board issued a slew of new rulings expanding union coercive power in the wake of 9/11.
- \*\* More recently, top officials of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM) union shamefully exploited the nation's critical war needs when they shut down production on the crucial F-22 fighter jet and C130-J military transport plane in a blatant attempt to increase their power.
- \*\* Worse still, bosses of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) also exploited America's urgent economic and national security needs to increase their power last fall by forcing a crippling shutdown of ALL West Coast shipping ports.
- \*\* And -- worst of all -- Tom Daschle, Joe Lieberman and other U.S. Senate allies of the union bosses held up President Bush's proposal to create a much-needed Homeland Security Department in a shameless attempt to give Big Labor veto power over how the Department is set up and operated.

Sadly, I could go on and on.

Through cynical post-9/11 maneuvering, Kennedy, Clinton and others sought to federally mandate that all state and local governments anoint union officials as the monopoly bargaining agents for local police, firefighters, paramedics and others on whom we would all depend in another 9/11-type attack.

They launched a reckless drive to hand union bosses operational control over the Homeland Security Department.

And, even as our troops were on their way to Afghanistan and other terror hot spots -- union officials called a crippling strike at a military tank manufacturing plant in Lima, Ohio.

But the worst part is this: The union bosses have only just begun exploiting the war effort and America's security needs.

That is why I was relieved when I heard that the National Right to Work Foundation was launching an aggressive campaign to fight this shameful, post-9/11 power grab by Big Labor.

The National Right to Work Foundation is dedicated to loosening the grip of coercive union power by providing free legal aid to thousands of employees whose human and civil rights have been violated by compulsory unionism.

The Foundation and its attorneys are great at protecting workers from union abuse and fight the unions head-on in both the court of public opinion and in the court of law.

Prior to the Foundation's beginning in 1968, victims of compulsory unionism were in a lonely, exposed position if they tried to fight back.

The Government ignored them, their fellow workers often shunned and even threatened them, and most labor lawyers either worked for union officials or for management.

But the National Right to Work Foundation changed all that.

Its staff of dedicated attorneys has:

- ++ fought for the rights of over 200,000 employees in more than 2,000 separate cases;
- ++ achieved landmark victories in numerous federal court cases -- including seven before the U.S. Supreme Court -- that have loosened the grip of coercive union power over the American economy, political system and millions of workers. Their celebrated victories include *Communications Workers v. Beck*, *Chicago Teachers Union v. Hudson*, and *Ellis v. Railway Clerks*; and
- ++ recruited more than 300,000 Americans willing to contribute to these strategic legal battles.

In short, the Foundation and its supporters strongly believe that an individual's constitutional rights take precedence over the power grabs of union bosses. And believe me, as someone who is doing all he can in the United States Congress to help the President protect our country and workers' rights...

... I am thrilled that the National Right to Work Foundation has decided to take on the union bosses' cynical and selfish drive to use the nation's security needs as a wedge to gain more power over workers and their rights.

But like any charitable organization, the Foundation operates solely through the generous support of concerned Americans like you.

That is why, in addition to accepting the enclosed invitation to support the Foundation's campaign to fight the Big Labor Bosses' cynical effort to increase their power at the expense of our homeland security and our troops overseas...

... I hope you will also rush back a special, urgently needed, tax-deductible gift of \$20, \$35, \$50, \$100, \$250 or more today.

Please, the Foundation is totally dependent on help from good people like you.

It requires no payment from the union-abused employees it helps. Instead, it depends entirely on Americans who share its view of freedom and its dedication to the idea that all employees should be protected from the abuses of compulsory unionism.

And please understand: Its mission has become more important than ever in the wake of 9/11 and the dangerous struggle with Iraq.

As I rush this heartfelt appeal to you, our nation is engaged in a great struggle against an evil enemy that lurks in many nations and takes many forms.

Meanwhile, our economy continues to struggle.

And it is truly sickening that, at a time when we desperately need everyone in America to pull together, the Big Labor Bosses are willing to harm freedom-loving workers, the war effort, AND the economy to acquire more power!

It is despicable. It is wrong. It is shameful.

My friend, we in Congress who care about winning the war, keeping America safe and prosperous, and protecting workers' rights are doing all we can to counter the power-hungry union kingpins.

But there is only so much we can do in a still bitterly divided Congress at a time of war and economic uncertainty.

That is why it's so important the legal ground troops of the National Right to Work Foundation have the ammo they need to protect individual workers from union abuses...

... especially when the union bosses are using the war on terrorism as a cover for their power drive!

It is also crucial that the Foundation have the assets it needs to fully publicize its efforts and fund all its cases so the whole nation can see just how low the union hierarchy will go to advance its own power.

So please, for the sake of our men and women overseas whose lives will depend on an uninterrupted flow of arms and equipment...

... and for the sake of our security, prosperity, and freedom;

... check "YES" on your RSVP;

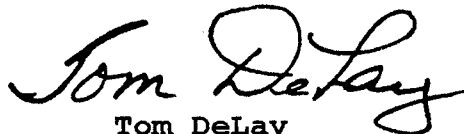
... and then rush it and a very special, very needed, tax-deductible gift of \$20, \$35, \$50, \$100, \$250 or more back to the National Right to Work Foundation today.

If you can send as much as \$500, \$1,000 or more, that would be a tremendous shot-in-the-arm for the Foundation.

But please, whatever you send, do so today.

Thank you. God bless you. And may God bless America and help keep us strong and free.

Sincerely,



Tom DeLay  
Majority Leader

P.S. We cannot allow the Big Union Bosses to use strikes, threats, and intimidation to advance their power at the expense of workers, the war effort and our struggling economy. So please: Check "YES" on your RSVP and rush it back today along with your most generous, tax-deductible gift of \$20, \$35, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500 or more.

P.P.S. A generous Foundation supporter has just agreed to match your gift dollar for dollar! That means your contribution will be doubled. Please respond today.