



# PROTECT OHIO'S MIDDLE CLASS

## *On Union Membership...*

- ❖ Since 1935, Congress has guaranteed the rights of workers to collectively bargain, and since 1947 has protected the rights of workers to refrain from union membership if they choose.
- ❖ Unionized employees are 19% more likely to have employer-provided health coverage than non-union employees.
- ❖ Unionized employees are 25% more likely to have an employer-sponsored pension than non-union employees.

## *On “right to work” states vs. free-bargaining states...*

- ❖ The average annual pay for workers is 14.1% higher in free-bargaining states than “right to work” states.
- ❖ The average employee in a “right to work” state takes home over \$5,000 *less* per year than their counterparts in free-bargaining states.
- ❖ Workers in free-bargaining states are 4.5% more likely to have health coverage and a pension than workers in “right to work” states.
- ❖ Due to the inability to negotiate for workplace standards, construction industry fatalities are 40% higher in “right to work” states than free-bargaining states.
- ❖ Most of the states with the highest unemployment rates in the country are “right to work” states.
- ❖ Workers in “right to work” states make less money, have fewer benefits, and suffer more on-the-job fatalities than workers in free-bargaining states.

## *On the Economic Impact of “right to work”*

- ❖ Most of the states with the highest unemployment rates in the country are “right to work” states.
- ❖ Most studies conclude that “right to work” laws have no impact on economic development, and some studies even conclude that it may have a negative impact on economic progress.
- ❖ “right to work” laws drive wages down, on average 14%, which damages the overall economy.
- ❖ Middle-class workers are disproportionately hurt by “right to work” laws.
- ❖ This amendment is being pushed by big-business groups seeking to drive down middle-class wages for union and nonunion employees alike.

## *On Unionization...*

- ❖ No individual can be forced to join a union, regardless of “right to work”.
- ❖ Federal law guarantees that no one can be forced to join a union, and no one can be required to pay union dues that fund political causes they oppose.
- ❖ No employee who objects to a union's political activity can be required to pay for it.

*On “right to work” and businesses...*

- ❖ According to an annual survey of small businesses, “right to work” has never been one of the top-10 factors in business location decisions.
- ❖ According to the 2010 State New Economy Index – profiling which states are best-poised for high tech job growth – 10 of the top 11 states are non-“right to work” states.

*On Governor Kasich...*

- ❖ Governor Kasich said that when he talks to CEOs around the state about Ohio's business climate, "labor unrest rarely come up."