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Details:

(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

**WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ...
PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS**

2009-10

(session year)

Senate

(Assembly, Senate or Joint)

**Committee on ... Labor, Elections, and Urban
Affairs (SC-LEUA)**

COMMITTEE NOTICES ...

- Committee Reports ... **CR**
- Executive Sessions ... **ES**
- Public Hearings ... **PH**

INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

- Appointments ... **Appt** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Clearinghouse Rules ... **CRule** (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Hearing Records ... bills and resolutions (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
(**ab** = Assembly Bill) (**ar** = Assembly Resolution) (**ajr** = Assembly Joint Resolution)
(**sb** = Senate Bill) (**sr** = Senate Resolution) (**sjr** = Senate Joint Resolution)
- Miscellaneous ... **Misc**

Senate

Record of Committee Proceedings

Committee on Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs

Senate Bill 523

Relating to: unfair labor practices in violation of collective bargaining rights.

By Senators Coggs, Hansen, Vinehout, Wirch, Lehman, Taylor, Lassa, Kreitlow and Sullivan; cosponsored by Representatives Pocan, Mason, Hixson, Roys, Turner, Jorgensen, Sinicki, Kessler, Berceau, Zepnick, Milroy, Soletski, Toles, Hilgenberg, Young, Van Akkeren, Molepske Jr., Parisi, Pope-Roberts, Grigsby, Hintz, Smith and Richards.

February 09, 2010 Referred to Committee on Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs.

March 3, 2010 **PUBLIC HEARING HELD**

Present: (5) Senators Coggs, Wirch, Lehman, A. Lasee and Grothman.

Absent: (0) None.

Appearances For

- Spencer Coggs — Senator
- Peter Rickman — TAA, AFT #3220
- David Boetcher — IBEW Wisconsin State Conference
- Chad Goldberg — AFT Local 223
- Scott Spector — AFT

Appearances Against

- None.

Appearances for Information Only

- None.

Registrations For

- Dave Hansen — Senator
- Bryan Kennedy — AFT Wisconsin
- Mark Pocan — Representative
- Cory Mason — Representative
- Phil Neuenfeldt — Wisconsin State AFL-CIO
- Stephanie Bloomingdale — Wisconsin Federation of Nurses & Health Professionals
- Robert Kraig — Citizen Action of Wisconsin
- Mary Goulding — AFSCME
- Tamara Grigsby — Representative
- Susan McMurray — AFSCME

- Diane Schmahl — AFSCME
- Linda Sines — AFSCME
- Shannon Jacobson — AFSCME
- Rachel Henderson — AFSCME
- Neill Kiley — AFSCME
- Linda Womack — AFSCME
- Aaron Branch — AFSCME
- Fox Hanson — AFSCME
- Nancy Patin — AFSCME
- Amelie Zongo — AFSCME
- Joe Kreuser — AFSCME
- Steve Knudson — AFSCME
- Garry Rapala — AFSCME
- Kenneth Hodel — AFSCME
- Scott Hurd — AFSCME
- Audrey Kreuser — AFSCME
- Paul Marten — AFSCME
- Darcy Eckland — AFSCME
- Darcy Eckland — AFSCME
- Bill Brockmiller — AFSCME
- Fran Schmidt — AFSCME
- Ronald Keenan — AFSCME
- Allen Lueck — AFSCME
- Pam Stetzer — AFSCME
- Ronnie Hart — AFSCME
- Renita Hoover — AFSCME
- Jacqueline Sargent — AFSCME
- Ann Capadong — AFSCME
- Michael Will — AFSCME
- Tim Jochman — AFSCME
- Kenny Tilleman — AFSCME
- Donald Martiniak — AFSCME
- Kim Scott — AFSCME
- John Newton — AFSCME
- Randy Brink — AFSCME
- Eric Robson — AFSCME
- Barb Peters — AFSCME
- Terry Fritter — AFSCME
- Andy Nicolet — AFSCME
- Masre Jacob — AFSCME
- Jeff Nicolai — AFSCME
- Jeffrey Christenson — AFSCME
- Jason Wunderlich — AFSCME
- Eric Johnson — AFSCME
- Josh Dunbar — AFSCME

- Beth Lalor — AFSCME
- Jean Bord — AFSCME
- Ronald Burr — AFSCME
- Amos Mietz — AFSCME
- Jessica Meagher — AFSCME
- Eric Meagher — AFSCME
- William Miller — AFSCME
- Bjorn Olson — AFSCME
- Dennis Martin — AFSCME
- Susan Olsen — AFSCME
- Robert Horlacher — AFSCME
- Anneliese Sheahan — AFSCME
- Gregory Hazen — AFSCME
- Judith Gatlin — AFSCME
- Janet Ramsey — AFSCME
- Marty Strub — AFSCME
- Michael Recklirs — AFSCME
- Tom Bourque — AFSCME
- Katrenia Grabowski — AFSCME
- Matthew Grabowski — AFSCME
- Don Stuttgen — AFSCME
- Sue Christopherson — AFSCME
- Linda Alexander — AFSCME
- Debra Foth — AFSCME
- Steve Louis — AFSCME
- Joseph Blair — AFSCME
- Leah Lipska — AFSCME
- Mickey Lipska — AFSCME
- Mark Thomas — AFSCME
- Keith Clampitt — AFSCME
- Daniel Dixon — AFSCME
- Anne Habel — AFSCME
- Bernard Liser — AFSCME
- Karen Rutta — AFSCME
- Reynaldo Vega — AFSCME
- JoAnne Evica — AFSCME
- Bret Kohlhepp — AFSCME
- Jeff Johnson — AFSCME
- Gerry Zastrow — AFSCME
- Maurice Pulley — AFSCME
- John Zielinski — AFSCME
- Randy Marlett — AFSCME
- John Gast — AFSCME
- Steven Riley — AFSCME
- Dan Sessions — AFSCME

- Gilbert Johnson — AFSCME
- Gilbert Johnson — AFSCME
- Aaron Puckett — AFSCME
- Jerome Lovelace — AFSCME
- Calvin Lee — AFSCME
- Steve Short — AFSCME
- Caryn Henneman — AFSCME
- Carrie Grunewald — AFSCME
- Theresa Hernandez — AFSCME
- Julie Krucas — AFSCME
- James Talkington — AFSCME
- Karen Cronn — AFSCME
- Donna DeFlonan — AFSCME
- Stephanie Geishert — AFSCME
- Dave Geishert — AFSCME
- Kimberly Galston — AFSCME
- Sherina Tucker — AFSCME
- Sheri Schwartz — AFSCME
- Cathy Horenberger — AFSCME
- Gary Mercier — AFSCME
- James Marczewski — AFSCME
- Sue Blaustein — AFSCME
- James Fields — AFSCME
- Kenneth Wischer — AFSCME
- Shawn Welch — AFSCME
- Gloria Beckham — AFSCME
- David Eisner — AFSCME
- Monica Richards — AFSCME
- Sharon Pankau — AFSCME
- Cora Bell — AFSCME
- Carol Beals — AFSCME
- Randy Letlebo — AFSCME
- Lori Kief — AFSCME
- Arlyon Halverson — AFSCME
- Ann McNeary — AFSCME
- Darold Lowe — AFSCME
- Gretchen Lowe — AFSCME
- Deborah Sproule — AFSCME
- William Rogeberg — AFSCME
- Thomas Bilicki — AFSCME
- Cecilia Lewandowski — AFSCME
- Nada Thomas — AFSCME
- Linda Greene — AFSCME
- Linda Tidquist — AFSCME
- Nartha Rydlewicz — AFSCME

- Brian Stankiewicz — AFSCME
- Tad Powalisz — AFSCME
- Daniel Panowitz — AFSCME
- Terry Mueller — AFSCME
- Nick Sekula — AFSCME
- Mark Dudek — AFSCME
- Roger Hansen — AFSCME
- Ken Jaeger — AFSCME
- Mark Pohl — AFSCME
- Bill Dallman — AFSCME
- Tommy Jones — AFSCME
- Kay Rataczak — AFSCME
- Sue Steiner — AFSCME
- Vickie Schmidt — AFSCME
- Robert Knudsen — AFSCME
- Jerry LaPoint — AFSCME
- Tom Thornton — AFSCME
- Tim Lemon — AFSCME
- Paul Wasemiller — AFSCME
- Christine Kistner — AFSCME
- Diana Smith — AFSCME
- Martha Bradley — AFSCME
- Randall Fox — AFSCME
- Ken Weaver — AFSCME
- Susan Miller — AFSCME
- Charles Braders — AFSCME
- Dennis Ellingson — AFSCME
- Daniel Lade — AFSCME
- Margaret Zautke — AFSCME
- Timothy Allen — AFSCME
- John Buszka — AFSCME
- Dan Bonneau — AFSCME
- Patricia Rogers — AFSCME
- Beth Werve — AFSCME
- Paul Wilant — AFSCME
- Jason Otto — AFSCME
- Heidi Peterson — AFSCME
- Keith Perkins — AFSCME
- Michael Ritchie — AFSCME
- Patrick Doyle — AFSCME
- Laurie Burke — AFSCME
- Pam Beining — AFSCME
- Joel Humski — AFSCME
- Michael Murphy — AFSCME
- Jim Garity — AFSCME

- Roger Mroczenski — AFSCME
- Judy Beyer — AFSCME
- Dawn Robinson — AFSCME
- Julie Allen — AFSCME
- Paul Terry — AFSCME
- Mike Halvorson — AFSCME
- Mark Montague — AFSCME
- Mark Wojtak — AFSCME
- Sara Stichert — AFSCME
- Harvey Austin — AFSCME
- Paul Oosterhouse — AFSCME
- Tom Corcoran — AFSCME
- Ralph Kracht — AFSCME
- Tina Johnson — AFSCME
- Megan Quint — AFSCME
- Brian Henslin — AFSCME
- Patrick Wycoff — AFSCME
- Evelyn Meuret — AFSCME
- Cindy Schultz — AFSCME
- Dana Robinson — AFSCME
- Poullette Feld — AFSCME
- Susan Raasch — AFSCME
- Karen Reiter — AFSCME
- Matt Davis — AFSCME
- Jane Holmes — AFSCME
- Amanda Wisse — AFSCME
- Kathy Wohler — AFSCME
- Deb Heibing — AFSCME
- Robert McLinn — AFSCME
- Matthew Crossman — AFSCME
- Gary Herman — AFSCME
- Kelly Rockow — AFSCME
- Thomas Manske — AFSCME
- Bonnie Manske — AFSCME
- Margaret Crossman — AFSCME
- Larry Brown — AFSCME
- Angie Hudson — AFSCME
- Jim Fabian — AFSCME
- Manuel Cockroft — AFSCME
- Carol Kress — AFSCME
- Kevin Jungwirth — AFSCME
- Larry Lautenschlager — AFSCME
- Korea Dalton — AFSCME
- Carol Wronski — AFSCME
- Steven Anderson — AFSCME

- Sonya Woods — AFSCME
- Leonard Taylor — AFSCME
- Wilma Crowder — AFSCME
- Elizabeth Boyd — AFSCME
- Andrea Brown — AFSCME
- Joan Kalding — AFSCME
- Kory Small — AFSCME
- Shaun Boston — AFSCME
- Robert Wise — AFSCME
- Cathy Myszkewicz — AFSCME
- Mary Jo Salas — AFSCME
- Paul Krein — AFSCME
- Marilyn Webb — AFSCME
- Claudia Weaver — AFSCME
- Kevin Manning — AFSCME
- Narazeah Cunningham — AFSCME
- Kathy Bonner — AFSCME
- Kevin Schoofs — AFSCME
- Kurr Zunker — AFSCME
- Scott Sharp — AFSCME
- Stephanie Findley — AFSCME
- Rob Wayss — AFSCME
- Kimberly Harris — AFSCME
- John English — AFSCME
- Jeffrey Berger — AFSCME
- Zachary Wisniewski — AFSCME
- Rick Badger — AFSCME
- James Finnell — AFSCME
- Annie Wacker — AFSCME
- John Hackett — AFSCME
- Rita Phelan — AFSCME
- Pamela Meyer — AFSCME
- Tamela Jorgensen — AFSCME
- Keri McCollum — AFSCME
- Steven Coleman — AFSCME
- Bill Reedy — AFSCME
- Harold Matthews — AFSCME
- Tom McKinley — AFSCME
- William Backes — AFSCME
- Steve Hesselberg — AFSCME
- Keith Jamieson — AFSCME
- Paul Gibson — AFSCME
- Mary Braunreiter — AFSCME
- Shannon Gerue — AFSCME
- Lorraine Haeffel — AFSCME

- William Backes — AFSCME
- Steve Hesselberg — AFSCME
- Keith Jamieson — AFSCME
- Paul Gibson — AFSCME
- Mary Braunreiter — AFSCME
- Shannon Gerue — AFSCME
- Lorraine Haeffel — AFSCME
- Joann Sykes — AFSCME
- Matt McKenzie — AFSCME
- Henry Bauman — AFSCME
- Mark Kramer — AFSCME
- Debra Taylor — AFSCME
- Paul Spink — AFSCME

Registrations Against

- None.

Registrations for Information Only

- None.

March 10, 2010

EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD

Present: (5) Senators Coggs, Wirch, Lehman, A. Lasee and Grothman.

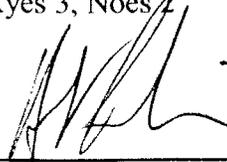
Absent: (0) None.

Moved by Senator Wirch, seconded by Senator Lehman that **Senate Bill 523** be recommended for passage.

Ayes: (3) Senators Coggs, Wirch and Lehman.

Noes: (2) Senators A. Lasee and Grothman.

PASSAGE RECOMMENDED, Ayes 3, Noes 2



Adam Plotkin
Committee Clerk

Vote Record

Committee on Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs

Date: Wed., March 10, 2010

Moved by: WIRCH Seconded by: LEHMAN

AB _____ SB 523 _____ Clearinghouse Rule _____
 AJR _____ SJR _____ Appointment _____
 AR _____ SR _____ Other _____

A/S Amdt _____
 A/S Amdt _____ to A/S Amdt _____
 A/S Sub Amdt _____
 A/S Amdt _____ to A/S Sub Amdt _____
 A/S Amdt _____ to A/S Amdt _____ to A/S Sub Amdt _____

Be recommended for:
 Passage Adoption Confirmation Concurrence Indefinite Postponement
 Introduction Rejection Tabling Nonconcurrence

<u>Committee Member</u>	<u>Aye</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Absent</u>	<u>Not Voting</u>
Senator Spencer Coggs, Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator Robert Wirch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator John Lehman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator Alan Lasee	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Senator Glenn Grothman	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Totals:	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	_____	_____

Motion Carried Motion Failed

Plotkin, Adam

From: Sen.Coggs
Sent: Wednesday, January 20, 2010 3:03 PM
To: *Legislative Senate Democrats; *Legislative Senate Republicans; *Legislative Assembly Democrats; *Legislative Assembly Republicans; *Legislative Assembly - Independents
Subject: Co-Sponsorship - LRB 3315/3 - Use of Public Dollars under SELRA - DEADLINE WED. FEB. 3
Attachments: 09-33153.pdf

→ became SB 523

TO: Legislative Colleagues
FROM: Senators Spencer Coggs and Dave Hansen and Representatives Mark Pocan and Cory Mason
RE: LRB 3315/3, relating to: unfair labor practices in violation of collective bargaining rights
DEADLINE: Wednesday, February 3 at 5:00pm

Colleagues,

Current law allows almost all public sector employees with the right to collectively bargain under the State Employment Labor Relations Act (SELRA). SELRA regulates unfair labor practices for both the state as an employer and for unions seeking the right to organize workers. However, there is no provision in state law preventing the state from deterring union organizing. LRB 3315 would make it a prohibited practice for all state agencies, which includes the University of Wisconsin System, from using any and all funds received to discourage workers from engaging in their statutory right to collectively bargain.

For example, the University of Wisconsin System recently requested bids from private contractors to educate and train system leadership about the process of collective bargaining. This bill would **not** prevent the UW System from contracting for those services. However, the private contractor could not, in any way, shape or form, impede the worker's rights to collectively bargain.

States around the country such as Illinois, New York, California, Montana, and Texas have similar laws.

If you are interested in co-sponsoring LRB 3315, please contact Adam in Sen. Coggs' office at 6-2500 or Craig in Rep. Pocan's office 6-8570. You will be added to both bills unless you request otherwise. **The deadline to sign on is Wednesday, February 3 at 5:00pm.**



09-33153.pdf (20 KB)



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



National Right to Work Committee

A COALITION OF EMPLOYEES AND EMPLOYERS

MARK MIX, *President*

February 17, 2010

The Hon. Spencer Coggs
Room 123 South
State Capitol
P.O. Box 7882
Madison, WI 53707

RE: **Senate Bill 523**

POSITION: **Oppose**

Dear Senator Coggs:

On behalf of the thousands of members and supporters of the National Right to Work Committee in Wisconsin, I urge you to oppose Senate Bill 523.

The number one priority for union officials is to increase the number of workers who are required to pay union dues in order to keep their jobs. This bill is designed to do just that.

S.B. 523 would place a gag order on every state agency in Wisconsin -- making it illegal for them to have honest discussions with their employees about the consequences of monopoly bargaining.

This bill would put Wisconsin state workers at a high risk to be manipulated into union-controlled monopoly bargaining, because when the time comes to vote on representation, there would be no one to counter the claims of union leaders.

Union organizers would be free to tell workers whatever they think would gain them monopoly bargaining privileges, and employers would be powerless to set the record straight.

By allowing only one side of the story to be told at a place of employment, you deny workers a free choice and force them to accept union officials as their only source of information regarding representation and bargaining contracts.

By passing S.B. 523, not only would you infringe on the rights of Wisconsin's public and private workers but also you would rob the pocketbooks of Wisconsin's taxpayers.

In state after state, as union officials gain more monopoly

bargaining powers, costs skyrocket while quality of service declines.

Gag orders like S.B. 523 don't do anything to ensure that facilities are more efficient or workers are more dedicated -- if anything, the reverse is true. All they do is allow union officials to force their monopoly "representation" on more Wisconsin workers and companies.

Only Big Labor would gain from this bill. Non-union workers, taxpayers and state government would all lose out.

No employer should be forced by state government to hand over his or her employees to union boss control, and no worker should be forced to accept and pay for the unwanted "representation" of a union official.

In the interests of the rights of the working men and women of Wisconsin, of sound public policy, and of basic fairness, I urge you to oppose Senate Bill 523.

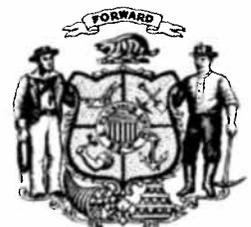
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Mix". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mark Mix
President



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE





SEN. SPENCER COGGS

6TH SENATE DISTRICT

State Capitol
Room 123-South

Toll-free: 877-474-2000
Madison: (608) 266-2500

Fri., February 26, 2010

News Release
For Immediate Release

Sen. Coggs will Chair Labor Committee Hearing on AFSCME Lobby Day *Senator shows solidarity with AFSCME members*

MADISON – Chairman Spencer Coggs’ Senate Committee on Labor, Elections, and Urban Affairs will meet in a public hearing next Wednesday, March 3, on two important labor bills.

One of the legislative initiatives, Senate Bill (SB) 390 would allow retired state employees who are members of the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) to voluntarily have their dues continue to be deducted from their retirement checks. The hearing will take place the afternoon of the annual statewide AFSCME members’ visit to the Capitol.

“SB 390 would make it easier for retirees to remain engaged members of their union without having to physically send in dues checks throughout the year. The bill provides for extensive privacy, and contains voluntary participation provisions to make it fair and equitable to all,” said Sen. Coggs.

The other legislation, Senate Bill (SB) 523, authored by Senator Coggs, would prevent all state agencies, which includes the University of Wisconsin system, from using any money to create roadblocks to union organizing activities.

“SB 523 would seem to be an obvious proposal, but one that has not yet made it into law. If enacted, this bill would provide protections for taxpayers and preserve the fundamental right for state employees to participate in labor unions,” said Sen. Coggs.

During the day next Wednesday, members of AFSCME will visit with their legislators throughout the capitol to highlight their legislative priorities for the remainder of this session.

“As a member, and former Chief Steward of AFSCME Local 1091, I know first hand the value that an organized union can offer in terms of negotiating terms of employment, fighting for worker safety, and creating a level playing field for all state and municipal employees,” said Sen. Coggs.

AFSCME
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO



Jerry LaPoint
Chair, AFSCME Retiree Council

2732 Fourth Street
Eau Claire, Wisconsin 54703
Home: (715) 834-1996



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



Plotkin, Adam

From: Scott Spector [spector@aft-wisconsin.org]
Sent: Monday, March 01, 2010 1:39 PM
To: Plotkin, Adam
Subject: Wednesday

SB523?

Adam-

wanted to touch base with you about the hearing on Wednesday. I spoke to Pohan's office and it doesn't sound like they are going to testify in committee. I don't think Mason is going to either.

We have at least 3 people testifying on the bill, and a couple more showing up to show support.

We have Bryan Kennedy, President of AFT-W, Peter Rickman, President of the Teaching Assistants Association and Chad Goldberg, member of United Faculty and Academic Staff.

If we could get those folks on sometime early in the hearing, that would be great.

Do we know which bill will go first?

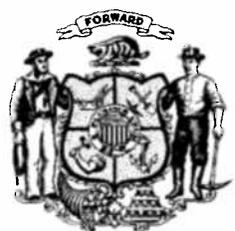
If you need any help with talking points for Spencer, let me know!

thanks

Scott



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



Spencer Coggs



State Senator

Senate Bill 523
Senate Committee on Labor, Elections, and Urban Affairs
March 3, 2010

Members,

Thank you for this hearing on Senate Bill (SB) 523. The bill limits the use of any funds by state agencies to deter workers efforts to organize for collective bargaining rights under the State Employment Labor Relations Act, or SELRA.

The technical aspects of the bill are actually quite simple – no state agency, which includes the University of Wisconsin System, would be able to use any funding source to deter such as union organizing.

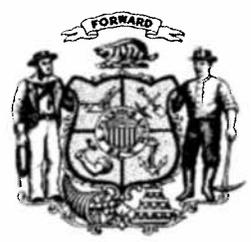
For example, the University of Wisconsin System recently requested bids from private contractors to educate and train system leadership about the process of collective bargaining. This bill would **not** prevent the UW System from contracting for those services. However, the private contractor could not, in any way, shape or form, impede the worker's rights to collectively bargain.

Simply put, state law under SELRA already directs the state not to interfere in an individual employee's choice to join or be represented by a labor union. This bill prohibits an agency from deterring the union organizing process.

Thank you for your support of SB 523.



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



**WISCONSIN TEAMSTERS
JOINT COUNCIL No. 39**

Affiliated with the International Brotherhood of Teamsters



FRED GEGARE
President
1546 Main Street
Green Bay, WI 54302
920-435-8895
FAX 920-435-1522

PAUL G. LOVINUS
Secretary-Treasurer
10020 West Greenfield Avenue
Milwaukee, WI 53214
414-258-4545
FAX 414-258-9465

TONY CORNELIUS
Vice-President
1546 Main Street
Green Bay, WI 54302

March 8, 2010

WAYNE SCHULTZ
Recording Secretary
1314 N. Stoughton Road
Madison, WI 53714

To: Senate Committee on Labor, Elections and Urban Affairs

Re: SB 523

GEROLD JACOBS
Trustee
1624 Yout Street
Racine, WI 53404

Dear Senator,

THOMAS MILLONZI
Trustee
6200 W. Bluemound Road
Milwaukee, WI 53213

The above referenced bill makes it an unfair labor practice for the University of Wisconsin System and employers of state employees covered under the State Employment Labor Relations Act to use any moneys received to discourage employees from exercising their rights to bargain collectively.

DAVID REARDON
Trustee
P.O. Box 86
Eau Claire, WI 54702

On behalf of Wisconsin Teamsters Joint Council 39, I am registering out support for this bill.

Any moneys generated by tax dollars, grants, etc. should not be utilized in any manner to prevent employees from exercising their statutory rights to form a Union.

I am respectfully requesting that you support this bill and urge your fellow Legislators to do the same.

Sincerely,

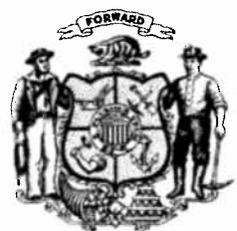
Danny L. McGowan
Legislative Liaison

Wisconsin Teamsters Joint Council 39/ms

Cc: Senators Coggs, Lehman, Wirch, Lasee, Grothman, Hansen, Vinehout, Taylor, Lassa, and Krietlow.
Representatives, Pocan, Mason, Hixson, Roys, Turner, Jorgensen, Sinicki, Kessler, Berceau, Zepnick, Milroy, Soletski, Toles, Hilgenberg, Young, Van Akkeren, Molepske Jr., Parisi, Pope-Roberts, Grigsby, Hintz, Smith, and Richards.



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



Plotkin, Adam

From: Scott Spector [spector@aft-wisconsin.org]
Sent: Tuesday, March 09, 2010 3:47 PM
To: Dauscher, Sara; Browne, Michael; Bishop, Jennifer; Tierney, Michael; Plotkin, Adam
Subject: SB 523

Attachments: AFT-W support for SB 523.doc



AFT-W support for
SB 523.doc (... Friends-

Attached please find a memo from AFT-Wisconsin in support of SB 523. The bill is up for a vote in executive session of the Senate Labor committee tomorrow.

During the hearing last week, a question was raised about previous examples of public institutions using funds to deter union organizing. I wanted to clarify that when teaching and research assistants voted to be recognized under state law in 1985, the UW engaged in anti-union tactics and tried to persuade workers from voting in favor of the union, including mailing workers with anti-union propaganda. We believe that SB 523 would prevent similar tactics from being used again during organizing efforts.

Also during the hearing, Senator Grothman raised concerns that this bill would restrict free speech. We believe that state law already restricts the ability of employers from speaking out against union organizing drives. This bill would further clarify state law to restrict the ability of public institutions to use money to discourage union organizing.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

thanks

Scott Spector



AFT • AFL-CIO
AFT-Wisconsin
A Union of Professionals

March 8, 2010

TO: Members of the Senate Labor Committee
FROM: Scott Spector, Government Relations Representative
RE: Support for SB 523

AFT-Wisconsin strongly supports SB 523, and urges legislators to support this legislation.

The 2009 budget granted collective bargaining rights to over 20,000 employees at the University of Wisconsin, including faculty, academic staff and research assistants. These workers fought for years to join their peers in state service and around the country to have the right to decide if they wanted to collectively bargain.

After these workers earned their right to collectively bargain the UW hired a consultant to advise them how the collective bargaining process would work. This bill would not prohibit the UW from hiring a consultant. However, the bill does regulate how UW uses funds to deter union organizing efforts.

Current statues prohibit the state from interfering with an employee's choice about whether to join or to be represented by a labor union. This bill will make it a prohibitive practice for state agencies, including the UW, to use funds to discourage workers from engaging in their statutory right to collectively bargain.

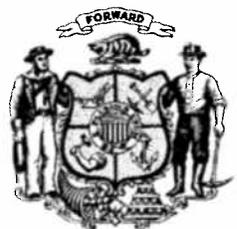
Since the state is prohibited from becoming involved in a worker's right to decide if they want to collectively bargain, it only makes sense to also limit the ability of the state and the University of Wisconsin to use funds to interfere with collective bargaining decisions. It is important to note that this bill will not require the state to support or promote unionizing efforts; it simply regulates the use of money regarding union organizing. Many states around the country have passed similar laws including Montana, Illinois, and Texas.

Previously, when teaching and project assistants voted to organize, the university did use state dollars to discourage workers from joining the union. We believe this bill would prevent them from using a similar tactic during future organizing drives.

This is a common sense proposal that should be state law. We urge you to support this proposal.



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



Date?

AFT-WISCONSIN COUNCILS
Graduate Employees
Higher Education
K-12 Teachers
PSRP
State Employees
WTCS
Retiree Chapter

Good afternoon. My name is Bryan Kennedy, and in addition to being an adjunct professor at UW-Milwaukee, I am the president of AFT-Wisconsin, a labor union representing 17,000 professional public employees in Wisconsin.

For over forty years, AFT-Wisconsin member activists have been at the forefront of the struggle for collective bargaining rights for UW academic staff and faculty. When collective bargaining rights were extended to academic professionals in June 2009, faculty and academic staff moved full steam ahead with ongoing organizing efforts.

Unfortunately, shortly after the collective bargaining legislation was passed, UW System changed their position on academic unions from one of neutrality to one of discouragement. Almost immediately, requests for quotes for "union consultants" were distributed, resulting in the hiring of such a consultant at taxpayer expense.

Since the hiring of this outside consultant, UW System has put up roadblocks to academic unions that exercise collective bargaining, including misleading written communication, restriction of campus mail services and even prohibiting faculty and academic staff from speaking to their colleagues about collective bargaining.

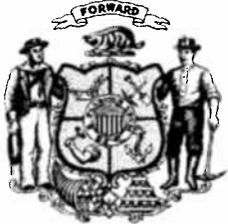
It is unacceptable that such actions be taken at taxpayer expense, especially in a time of economic crisis for our state and our university system. At a time when student tuition is skyrocketing, time to matriculation is increasing and funds for research and instruction are drying up, it is a disgrace that even one penny should be wasted on anti-union campaigns.

As an academic professional within the UW System, I can attest that faculty and academic staff are the best stewards of our campus communities. As a union leader, I can assure you that the best way to empower academic professionals to best advocate for the campuses and students we serve is for us to have a voice in a collective bargaining process.

UW System should not be throwing up roadblocks to that process. I respectfully ask you to follow the examples set by California, Illinois, Montana, New York and Texas, and pass Senate Bill 523. Thank you, and I will now be happy to address any questions you may have.



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE





Teaching Assistants' Association (TAA)
American Federation of Teachers (AFT) Local 3220
254 W. Gilman Street
Madison, WI 53703

SB 523? Date?

I would like to begin by thanking the committee for taking the time to address this bill and for taking the time to hear from some of us greatly affected by the good public policy it represents.

My name is Peter Rickman and I am a grad and law student at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. As importantly, I am the president of AFT Local #3220, the Teaching Assistants' Association. The TAA is the union of grad student workers at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Since 1969, we have represented grad student workers at the UW who perform work critical to the teaching, research, and outreach mission of our university. On behalf of the thousands of grad student workers in our ranks, I would like to state that we strongly urge you to pass this legislation post-haste.

I would like to start by briefly sharing with you a bit more about who we are and what we do, so that you can understand the impact that this legislation will have on thousands of grad student workers in all parts of the university.

When the state legislature had the wisdom to enact legislation in 1985 granting collective bargaining rights to grad student workers, following over a decade of grad unionism, many but not all grad student workers were included. Teaching and project assistants gained and immediately took advantage of collective bargaining rights to form a legally-recognized union. In the years since, the TAA has been the voice of grad student workers, contributing to a stronger academic community for our university and the people of Wisconsin while bargaining contracts that address the challenges we face as grad student workers.

However, research assistants were excluded from collective bargaining rights in 1985. But the TAA has always seen itself and acted as the union of all grad student workers, whether recognized by state statutes or not. Teaching, project, and research assistants have been members, activists, and leaders in our union. Even while state labor law recognized only teaching and project assistants in labor rights, excluding research assistants, our union advocated for and advanced the cause of grad student workers in collective bargaining, the democratic political arena, and through organizing.

This past year, the state legislature once again had the wisdom to take up collective bargaining rights for grad student workers and corrected the 25-year exclusion of research assistants. Now, all grad student workers will be able to form one union among all of us that can bargain a contract and take on the challenges that we face. Twenty-five hundred research assistants can join over three thousand of their brothers and sisters in the basic and fundamental right to organize collectively. From being the first grad student workers' union in the nation, we the TAA look forward to completing the long-traveled path of having one union for all of us, no exclusions.

The TAA is committed to organizing all grad student workers and formally bringing in to our union the previously-excluded research assistants, but we as a union and we as grad student workers must have the ability to take action ourselves. Opposition to and encroachment upon the exercise of the basic and fundamental right to organize collectively could stand in the way

of justice, fairness and democracy for grads but also could stand in opposition to the values that make our state and our university so special.

Wisconsin has a proud tradition as a state and in its university system of advancing core social values like justice, fairness, and democracy. As a union, the TAA has always been committed to living up to these values and being part of a vibrant, dynamic and positive university community. Were those values and that community to be threatened by anti-worker union-busting, we as a state and we as a university would sacrifice much of what makes us a paragon of sound policy and practice as an internationally-renowned and recognized institution of higher learning.

We must ensure that justice, fairness, and democracy are done in our public institutions like the university system, and anti-worker union-busting, funded by public money, which contravenes these values have no place in Wisconsin or on UW campuses. For that reason alone, this legislation would protect time-honored and important values while ensuring that workers' voices can be heard together.

As a union that takes seriously its responsibility to be a constructive member of the UW community, we are also concerned with the fiscal situation in the state and with our university. There is no place for university administration to be spending public money on anti-worker union-busting. At a time of dire fiscal straits, every dollar must be put into the mission of the university; a mission that includes teaching, research, and outreach as well as the advancement of those core social values like democracy, fairness, and justice. No public money need or should be spent contravening these values nor taken away from crucial operations in an institution of higher learning already crunched for funding.

While state GPR funding of the university has dwindled, tuition and segregated fees have risen. Positions in teaching, research, and outreach are cut while wages that create competitiveness sag even as the bureaucracy grows with more administrators. With a picture like this staring us all in the face, one can only wonder how or why public money, taxpayer and tuition dollars, can be justified for spending on anti-worker union-busting. The TAA believes that as a steward of the university community, we must call upon policy-makers to ensure that public money, taxpayer and tuition dollars, are put toward higher learning, not toward administrative maneuvering to bust democratic worker organization.

As a student, I cannot sit by idly while the prospect looms of my tuition dollars being spent to take away from the university mission and to contravene core academic and social values. We must not let tuition money be spent on anti-worker union-busting.

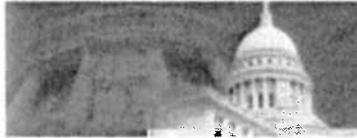
As a taxpayer and life-long resident of this state, I cannot sit by idly while the prospect looms of my tax dollars being spent on anti-worker union-busting in the university system when this very university system faces a fiscal crunch. We must ensure that wise fiscal policy reigns and prevent public dollars from being spent on unnecessary and unconscionable anti-worker union-busting conduct.

As a citizen and as a unionist, I believe strongly, and I am speaking on behalf of my brothers and sisters in the ranks of grad student workers, that academic values, Wisconsin values, must be paramount. Wisconsin must protect the fundamental right and core interest of grad student workers to organize collectively as we see fit without threat, intimidation, coercion, and opposition. Public money must not be spent by public institutions when we must focus upon acting in the public interest.

The public interest here is in safeguarding our core values of democracy, justice and fairness and in safeguarding public dollars from being spent in contravention of those values.

Respectfully, and with a shared purpose of taking the Wisconsin Idea into the 21st Century, we the fifty-five hundred grad student workers at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the members of the TAA call upon and ask you to pass this good, sound legislation.

Thank you for hearing from us today. If there are any questions, I would be happy to answer before I head back to campus.



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



LEVA Exec & Hearing - Mar. 3, 2010

EXEC

Robert Glaser > nothing
SB 423

HEARING

SB 523

SB 390

Hansen & Jerry LaPoint

- both have written testimony
- SC? - allows retirees able to stay in touch
 - strictly voluntary? - yes
- JL? - not really a question
- GG? - on costs at ETF

Matt Stohr, ETF

- has written testimony
- LC? - what is the need for program revenue
- Wirsch? - on privacy, Lehman? - on unwanted solicitations
 - ↳ blind mailing list
- GG? - asks for operational cost estimate
- ^{got} asks for bit to retiree payments assessment
- ~~denied~~ 13.10 request last December
- JL? - what's need for one time imple

①

Steve Regestreit

- has written testimony
- Wirth? on precedence in other states
- Lehman? on actual costs
 - shocked at estimate by ETP
- get other state costs to Hansen
- do shotgun mailings in every state?
 - not too unusual
- SC? - any accusations of impropriety in other states?
 - no safeguards in place

Robert Schaefer - State

SB523

SC

- written testimony

Bryan K

Peter Rickman - TAA

- has written testimony
 - have been no examples of this happening prior to VW example
-

David Boetcher - IBEW

- taxpayer money shouldn't be used to subvert organizing
- right to organize is enshrined in several places in the statutes

Chad Goldberg - AFR 223

- has written testimony

Scott Spector - AFR

- examples of when state used \$