

HAWAII STATE AFL-CIO

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The Thirty-First Legislature, State of Hawai'i Hawai'i State House of Representatives Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Testimony by Hawai'i State AFL-CIO March 29, 2021

H.R. 47 H.D. 1 – URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND PRESIDENT JOSEPH R. BIDEN TO ENACT THE PROTECTING THE RIGHT TO ORGANIZE ACT

The Hawai'i State AFL-CIO is a state federation of 74 affiliate local unions and councils with over 68,000 members across both public and private sectors. We appreciate the opportunity to testify in strong support of H.R. 47 H.D. 1.

Worker protections have eroded over recent decades. Today, workers in America favor unions and tens of millions want to join one. Research from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology shows more than 60 million people would vote to join a union today if given the opportunity. Union density rose in 2020 amid the deadly coronavirus pandemic and the failed federal response to it. Gallup found that union approval stands at 65%, one of the highest marks in a half-century.

The PRO Act addresses several major problems with the current law and intends to give workers a fair chance to organize when they join with coworkers to form a union and bargain for living wages, better benefits, and safe conditions at their workplaces.

We appreciate your consideration of our testimony in strong support of H.R. 47 H.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira President



HR-47-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/25/2021 5:00:52 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/29/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Michael Golojuch Jr	LGBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Representatives,

The LGBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii, Hawaii's oldest and largest policy and political LGBTQIA+ focused organization, fully supports HR 47 HD 1.

Mahalo nui loa for your time and consideration,

Michael Golojuch, Jr.

Chair

LGBT Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i

HR-47-HD-1

Submitted on: 3/25/2021 5:04:10 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/29/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Pride at Work - Hawaii	Pride @ Work - Hawaii	Support	No	

Comments:

Aloha Representatives,

Pride at Work - Hawai'i, the state-wide chapter of Pride At Work (a constituency group of the national AFL-CIO) and an affiliate of the Hawai'i State AFL-CIO, fully supports HR 47 HD 1.

Mahalo nui loa,

Pride at Work - Hawai'i



International Union of Painters and Allied Trades District Council 50

2240 Young Street Honolulu, HI 96826

808.941.0991

Fax 808.955.9091

Email info@dc50.org

Website www.dc50.org

> PAINTERS 808.941.0991

GLAZIERS ARCHITECTURAL AND GLASS METAL WORKERS 808.946.3329

CARPET LINOLEUM AND SOFT TILE 808 942 3988

DRYWALL TAPERS FINISHERS 808.848.7766

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIR THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION 2021

TIME/DATE: Monday, March 29, 2021, 2:00 p.m.

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 58, HD1, AND HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 47, HD1 – "URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO ENACT THE PROTECTING THE RIGHT TO ORGANIZE ACT OF 2021 AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE."

TO REPRESENTATIVE MARK NAKASHIMA, CHAIR AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS:

The International Union of Painters and Allied Trades, District Council 50 (IUPAT, DC50) is a union of unions that includes the Painters, Local Union 1971; the Tapers, Local Union 1944; the Glaziers, Local Union 1886; the Carpet and Soft Tile Layers, Local Union 1926 and the Specialty Workers, Local Union 1941. Together, we have approximately two thousand members, who work in the Finishing Trades as industrial and commercial painters, drywall finishers, wall coverers, glaziers, glass workers and floor covering installers. My name is Lorna Woo, Director of Government Affairs, and I want to express my thanks for this opportunity to voice our **strong support** for House Concurrent Resolution 58, H.D. 1, and House Resolution 47, H.D. 1. These measures "Urging the United States Congress and President of the United States to enact the Protecting the Right to Organize Act of 2021, as Expeditiously as Possible."

According to a recent survey, nearly half of Americans indicated they would join a union if they had the opportunity. Only 10.7 percent of Americans belonged to a union, however. This clearly indicates a problem exists with our labor laws, which have not been amended to keep pace with changing times and have been weakened over the last few decades by anti-union efforts. The weakening of labor laws and unions has resulted

in an imbalanced economy, an increasingly stratified society, and a lower standard-ofliving for Americans.

On March 9, 2021, the United States House of Representatives passed the PRO Act to redress the problems with our labor laws and strengthen them to make them more effective in changing times. Among other things, the PRO Act expands opportunities for union formation and union membership growth; closing loopholes in the existing law; limits the damage to unions caused by right-to-work laws; and gives real enforcement authority to the National Labor Relations Board.

The changes that the PRO Act will bring about are crucial to restoring balance between labor and management, building an economy that is more just, and raising the standard of living for working class people in America.

Mahalo for the opportunity to express our support and we respectfully urge the passage of House Concurrent Resolution 58, HD1, and House Resolution 47, H.D. 1.



INTERNATIONAL LONGSHORE & WAREHOUSE UNION

LOCAL OFFICE • 451 ATKINSON DRIVE • HONOLULU, HAWAII 96814 • PHONE 949-416

HAWAII DIVISION: 100 West Lanikaula Street, Kilo, Hawaii 96720 • OAHU DIVISION: 451 Afkiason Drive, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

MAUI COUNTY DIVISION: 896 Lower Main Street, Wailuku, Hawaii 96793 • KAUAI DIVISION: 4154 Hardy Street, Lihue, Hawaii 96766

HAWAII LONGSHORE DIVISION: 451 Atkinson Drive, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

LOCAL 142

The Thirty-First Legislature Regular Session of 2021

THE HOUSE

Committee on Judiciary & Hawaiian Affairs

Rep. Mark M. Nakashima, Chair Rep. Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair State Capitol, Conference Room 325 & Videoconference Monday, March 29, 2021; 2:00 p.m.

STATEMENT OF THE ILWU LOCAL 142 ON HCR 58, H.D.1 / HR 47, H.D.1 URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND PRESIDENT JOSEPH R. BIDEN TO ENACT THE PROTECTING THE RIGHT TO ORGANIZE ACT AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE

The ILWU Local 142 <u>supports</u> HCR 58, H.D.1 and HR 47, H.D.1 which urges the United States Congress and President Biden to enact the Protecting the Right to Organize Act.

In the United States, wealth inequality continues to rise and the wage gap between the rich and the poor continues to grow at an exponential rate. Just last year, during the Covid-19 pandemic, millions of Americans lost their jobs, yet billionaires increased their wealth by a staggering \$1.3 trillion. This type of wealth inequality shows the system is broken and something needs to be done to bring power back to the workers and help revitalize the working class.

Supporting the PRO Act is a step in the right direction and will bring power back to the workers by essentially repealing 'right-to-work' for less laws, allow for workers to organize easier and prevent employer interference in union elections. The data is clear. When workers organize, workers earn more, have far better benefits and protections, and have a voice on the job.

Simply put, we need to fix our broken system and the PRO Act will help do just that. Without change, the rich will only get richer and workers will continue to struggle to make ends meet. We strongly encourage the passage of HCR 58, H.D.1 and HR 47, H.D.1.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



LOCAL *1 HI, IUBAC



International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local #1 of Hawaii

2251 North School Street, Honolulu, HI 96819 Phone: (808) 841-8822 • Fax: (808) 777-3456

March 29, 2021

The Hawaii State House of Representatives Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs The Honorable Mark M. Nakashima, Chair The Honorable Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair

RE: Strong Support for HCR58, HD1/HR47, HD1

The International Union of Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers, Local #1 of Hawaii would like to express its strong support for HCR58, HD1/HR47, HD1, which urges the United States Congress and President Joseph R. Biden to enact the Protecting the Right to Organize Act.

The Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act is a historic piece of federal legislation that will help to level the playing field for workers and give them the opportunity to exercise their right to organize a union.

Our union is proud of the relationship that we share with our signatory employers here in the islands, who provide vital building and construction services to both the public and private sectors. However, our members and our contractors are under assault by unscrupulous corporations and employers that abuse and deny their workers from having a meaningful voice in the workplace. The PRO Act would help to address these abuses and provide workers a fair shot at forming a union of their choice to bargain for better wages, benefits, and conditions in the workplace.

Too often, employers intentionally violate the law during organizing campaigns because some of the penalties are so weak that low-road employers just view them as a small cost of doing the business of union busting. The PRO Act strengthens penalties for such behavior in order to deter employers from interfering with workers' rights.

The PRO Act also clarifies the definition of independent contractor and supervisor to help prevent the misclassification of workers. Misclassification is far too common in the construction industry – and others as well – and prevents workers from exercising their rights, getting the pay and benefits they deserve, and deprives communities of much-needed revenue through tax evasion.

Our economy is too stacked against working people, and it is high time for Congress to step up to protect working class families and restore economic stability and the promise of the American Dream. We ask you to pass HCR58, HD1/HR47, HD1 so that we can encourage the United States Congress to pass the PRO Act and President Joseph R. Biden to enact the PRO Act as soon as possible.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide this testimony.



PLUMBERS AND FITTERS LOCAL 675 PLUMBERS 1317 - UNITED ASSOCIATION ON TO

March 26, 2021

Representative Mark M. Nakashima, Chair Representative Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair House Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs State Capitol, 415 South Beretania, Video Conference Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: HCR58, HD1/HR47, HD1 Protecting the Right to Organize Act Monday, March 29, 2021 at 2:00pm

Aloha Chair, Vice Chair, and Committee Members;

Chartered in 1919, the Plumbers and Fitters UA, Local 675 is one of the oldest organized labor unions in Hawai'i and one of three 'licensed' skilled-construction trades, steeped in a rich history as one of Hawai'i's construction industry pioneers.

The Plumbers and Fitters UA, Local 675 supports the adoption of House Resolution 47, HD1 and House Concurrent Resolution 58, HD1, urging the United States Congress and President Joseph R. Biden to enact the Protecting the Right to Organize Act.

As a member of the Hawai'i State AFL-CIO and the Hawai'i Building and Construction Trades Council, AFL-CIO, we join our brothers and sisters in support of this measure that amongst other benefits, empowers workers to enforce their labor rights under the National Labor Relations Act in court; prohibits employers from interfering in union elections, including prohibiting employers from requiring workers to attend meetings that are intended to persuade them against forming a union; enhances worker's rights to support boycotts, strikes, and similar acts; and closes loopholes in existing federal law such as misclassification of employees as supervisors or independent contractors.

Mahalo for the opportunity to support policies that allow workers to collectively bargain for fair wages, meaningful benefits, better working conditions, and an improved quality of life.





Malcolm Barcarse, Jr. A&B Electric Co., Inc. Chairman

Kathryn Mashima

Mashima Electric Chairman Elect

Ross Kawano ECA, LLP

Treasurer/Secretary

Jarrett Walters

Hawaiian Building Maintenance

Canaan Shon Hawaii Geophysical Services

> Ralph Sakauye Bora, Inc.

Kevin Schmid Oceanic Companies, Inc.



Geoffrey Chu
Oceanic Companies, Inc.
Chairman

Kimo Pierce Hawaii Plumbing Group, LLC Chairman Elect

> David Tsuda First Hawaiian Bank Treasurer

> > Ross Kawano ECA, LLP Secretary

Scott Massner
Helix Flectric

Maurice TorigoeM. Torigoe Plumbing, Inc.

Michelle Taketa StarCom Builders, Inc.

Christine Lanning Integrated Security Technologies, Inc.

2021 CEF ETTF Board of Trustees

Joe Ferrara Consolidated Painting LLC

> Leonard Tanaka T&T Electric, Inc.

Thiel Harryman Nova Group March 29, 2021

To: Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

Rep. Mark M. Nakashima, Chair Rep. Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair

From: Malcolm Barcarse, Jr. ABC Hawaii Board Chair

Associated Builders and Contractors Hawaii Chapter Testimony in **STRONG OPPOSITION** to HR 47 HD 1

Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi and members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify, my name is Malcolm Barcarse, Jr. I am currently the Chair of Associated Builders and Contractors, Hawaii Chapter which represents over 170 member companies in the Construction Industry in Hawaii. We also have a State Approved Trade Apprenticeship Program in the trades of Carpentry, Electrical, Painting, Plumbing and Roofing. Our national organization has over 21,000 members across 69 chapters.

The Protecting the Right to Organize (Pro) Act does not achieve what title suggests, protecting the rights of workers to decide whether or not to join a union. This bill's aim is to increase union density and coverage without regard to the consequences for workers, job creators and the economy as a whole.

The National Labor Relations Act provides a democratic process for workers to organize and gives the workers the right to decide in a democratic election whether or not to join a union. The Pro Act would upend this democratic process by instituting a backdoor "card check," which would in many cases replace union elections with a system that forces employees to sign union authorization cards in front of coworkers and union organizers. This undemocratic process is not how protect working conditions for local people.

In addition, this bill would hurt employees to who choose to work as independent contractors or participate in the "gig" economy. The provision would use the "ABC" test, the standard adopted in California's disastrous AB 5, to forcibly reclassify many independent contractors as employees. AAF research found that a national version of AB 5 could put up to 8.5% of gross domestic product at risk.

ABC Hawaii Staff

Jeffrey Durham – President/CEO Ken Wilson – Education Director Renee Rosehill – Operations Manager Justin Ou – CEF Service Coordinator Finally, this bill would hurt small business that have been struggling during this pandemic. The Pro Act would Strip "secondary boycott" protections that prevent unions from using their antitrust exemptions and immunity from certain state laws to target businesses for anticompetitive purposes other than organizing. This would allow unions to protest and boycott companies that are not directly involved in a labor dispute by eliminating the NLRA's 70-year ban on secondary boycott activity. If this provision is signed into law, unions could target not only the employer involved in a labor dispute but also any company that does business with that employer. Also, it would Interfere with attorney-client confidentiality and make it harder for businesses, particularly small businesses, to secure legal advice on complex labor law matters. This is not the type of burden that our local small business have to endure at this time.

The Pro Act is a bill that strips away employees right to have a free and fair election to determine whether or not they want to have a union. Furthermore, this bill would create tremendous burdens on the job creators that provide these jobs at exactly the wrong time. Therefore, we ask that this committee not adopt this resolution.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Rep. Mark M. Nakashima, Chair

Rep. Scot Z. Matayoshi, Vice Chair

HEARING DATE: Thursday, March 18, 2021

TIME: 9:00 a.m.

PLACE: VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

HR 47 IN SUPPORT

Aloha Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi and Committee Members,

This testimony is being submitted on behalf of the membership of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 1260. IBEW Local 1260 represents more than 3000 members throughout the Pacific, across the Hawaiian Islands, Guam and Wake Island. We appreciate the opportunity to testify in strong support of HR 47.

For decades, the labor movement has been under attack from Corporations and special interests. These efforts have been with the sole purpose of weakening employee's ability to organize and bring a voice to their workplace. The PRO Act is strong legislation that starts the process of restoring some of the rights that have been systematically striped away.

We appreciate your consideration of our testimony and strongly encourage passage of HR 47.

Respectfully submitted,
Leroy Chincio
Business Manager and Financial Secretary
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
Local 1260
700 Bishop Street #1600
Honolulu, HI 96813



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THE THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION OF 2021

COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY AND HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Representative Mark Nakashima, Chair Representative Scot Matayoshi, Vice Chair

Monday, March 29, 2021, 2:00 PM Conference Room 325 and via Videoconference

Re: Testimony in Support of HCR58 HD1/HR47 HD1 – URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO ENACT THE PROTECTING THE RIGHT TO ORGANIZE ACT OF 2021 AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE

Chair Nakashima, Vice Chair Matayoshi, and Members of the Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs:

The United Public Workers, AFSCME Local 646, AFL-CIO ("UPW") is the exclusive bargaining representative for approximately 14,000 public employees, which includes blue collar, non-supervisory employees in Bargaining Unit 1 and institutional, health, and correctional employees in Bargaining Unit 10, in the State of Hawaii and various counties. The UPW also represents 1,500 members in the private sector.

UPW **strongly supports** HCR58 HD1 and HR47 HD1 which urges the United States Congress and President Joe Biden to enact the Protecting the Right to Organize Act of 2021, also known as the PRO Act, as expeditiously as possible. The PRO Act is the labor community's top legislative priority and would provide protections for workers trying to organize and join a union and helps to level the playing field for working people across the country who are trying to get their voices heard. In addition to this, the PRO Act would also implement meaningful and enforceable penalties for companies that violate workers rights. We were pleased to see that the U.S. House of Representatives passed the PRO Act on a bipartisan vote earlier this month, and we hope that the U.S. Senate will be able to pass this legislation for President Biden to sign into law.

Hawaii's public unions will continue to advocate for the passage of this bill with our Congressional Delegation and we would like to thank Senators Schatz and Hirono and Representatives Case and Kahele for sponsoring this important legislation.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.





HAWAII GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION



RANDY PERREIRA, Executive Director • Tel: 808.543.0011 • Fax: 808.528.0922

The Thirty-First Legislature, State of Hawaii House of Representatives Committee on Judiciary and Hawaiian Affairs

Testimony by Hawaii Government Employees Association

March 29, 2021

H.C.R. 58/H.R. 47 – URGING THE U.S. CONGRESS

AND PRESIDENT JOSEPH BIDEN TO ENACT

THE PROTECTING THE RIGHT TO ORGANIZE ACT

The Hawaii Government Employees Association, AFSCME Local 152, AFL-CIO strongly supports the purpose and intent of H.C.R. 58, H.D. 1 and H.R. 47, H.D. 1 which urges the United States Congress and President Joseph Biden to enact the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act.

The PRO Act is being hailed as the most significant worker empowerment federal legislation since the Great Depression because it will empower employees to exercise the freedom to organize and collectively bargain, ensure that workers can quickly secure a contract once a union is recognized, end the harmful practice of punishing workers who strike by hiring replacement workers, and hold corporations accountable by strengthening the National Labor Relations Board. Passage of this critical legislation will significantly strengthen our economy by increasing wages and rebuilding the middle class and is crucial to restoring a healthy balance between the rights of labor and management.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in strong support of H.C.R. 58, H.D. 1 and H.R. 47, H.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy Perreira
Executive Director





INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BRIDGE, STRUCTURAL, ORNAMENTAL AND REINFORCING IRON WORKERS

Affiliated with A.F.L.-C.I.O.

LOCAL UNION NUMBER 625

94-497 UKEE STREET • WAIPAHU, HAWAII 96797

T.G. Paris
President Emeritus

March 29, 2021 - 2 pm House Finance Committee Via Videoconference State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street

Re: HR47/HCR58 - URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO ENACT THE PROTECTING THE RIGHT TO ORGANIZE ACT OF 2021 AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE

Dear Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Cullen, and members of the committee:

We <u>SUPPORT</u> resolutions HR120/HCR141. These resolutions respectfully urge the United States Congress and the President of the United States to enact the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act of 2021.

The PRO Act touches upon nearly every aspect of labor-management relations governed by the National Labor Relations Act and reverses several recent employer-friendly rulings by the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) and the Supreme Court, and NLRB rulemakings. The PRO Act was passed by the House and is awaiting Senate action. The Act would, among other updates, would enable the NLRB to levy civil penalties against employers who commit unfair labor practices under NLRA Section 8(a) of up to \$50,000 for each violation, and in certain cases, up to \$100,000 as currently, no monetary penalties exist. Also, if enacted, the PRO Act would supersede "right-to-work" laws by permitting employers and unions across America to agree upon a "fair share" clause, which would require all workers who are covered by a collective bargaining agreement to contribute union dues for the "cost of representation, collective bargaining, contract enforcement, and related expenditures."

The PRO Act is needed to restore a healthy balance between the rights of unions and those of management to better the economy and raise the standard of living for all Americans.

Sincerel

Joseph O'Donnell

Business Manager/Financial-Secretary Treasurer



HR-47-HD-1 Submitted on: 3/26/2021 10:20:19 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/29/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Vanessa Pinho	Individual	Support	No	

Comments:

I support the Pro Act.

HR-47-HD-1 Submitted on: 3/26/2021 10:20:44 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/29/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Taylor Bolin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass the Pro-Act. Thanks!

HR-47-HD-1 Submitted on: 3/26/2021 11:37:57 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/29/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
John Frigillana	Individual	Support	No	

Comments:

Pleas pass the HR47 resolution

HR-47-HD-1 Submitted on: 3/26/2021 11:47:55 AM

Testimony for JHA on 3/29/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing	
Douglas Kema Jr	Individual	Support	No	

Comments:

i support the pro act

<u>HR-47-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/26/2021 12:02:16 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/29/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Robin Schlitzkus	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support HR 47 Thank you

<u>HR-47-HD-1</u> Submitted on: 3/26/2021 12:05:16 PM

Testimony for JHA on 3/29/2021 2:00:00 PM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dwayne Arelliano	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please pass this reso.

IRON WORKERS STABILIZATION FUND

March 29, 2021; 2 pm House Committee on Finance Via Videoconference State Capitol 415 South Beretania Street

Re: HR47/HCR58 - URGING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS AND PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES TO ENACT THE PROTECTING THE RIGHT TO ORGANIZE ACT OF 2021 AS EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE

Dear Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Cullen, and members of the committee:

We <u>SUPPORT</u> resolutions HR120/HCR141. These resolutions respectfully request that the United States Congress and the President of the United States to enact the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act of 2021 as expeditiously as possible.

The PRO Act is historic legislation that will put power in the hands of workers and reverse decades of legislation meant to crush unions. The bill will completely change labor law as we know it and shift power away from CEOs to workers. The bill before Congress will make it illegal for employers to permanently replace striking workers and make secondary strikes and boycotts legal. The bill if enacted would eliminate obstacles for workers to get their first union contract and help strengthen protections for workers forming a union. The bill if enacted would establish compensatory damages for workers and penalties against employers when they fire or retaliate against workers for forming a union. The bill if enacted would also prevent the misclassification of workers as independent contractors and curtail "right-to-work" laws. The PRO Act is critical to restoring a healthy balance between the rights of unions and management and raising the standard of living for all Americans.

Sincerely,

T. George Paris

Managing Director

TGP: MP