News Items - March 2015

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Senate to vote today to undo labor union rule *

Mar. 4, 2015 | The Senate will vote Wednesday on a GOP-backed motion that would undo a controversial National Labor Relations Board rule that makes it easier for workers to hold union elections. Republicans are using the Congressional Review Act that allows lawmakers to undo regulation through a motion of disapproval, which needs a majority vote in both chambers. The motion can’t be filibustered or amended, which will help it bypass Democratic opposition. If the bill gets to his desk, however, the White House says President Obama will veto it. Full story... *Update: The bill passed the Senate Wednesday in a 53 to 46 vote. The legislation now goes to the House where it is expected to pass. However, it doesn’t appear the Senate has the two-thirds majority required to override a presidential veto.

Hearing dates set for Sysco/US Foods antitrust suit

Mar. 6, 2015 | A federal judge set a May 5 start date for court hearings on the FTC’s antitrust lawsuit against the merger of the nation’s two largest food distributors. During a Wednesday hearing, U.S. District Judge Amit Mehta said he would consider the case from May 5-8 and would add as many as three days the following week, if needed. Judge Mehta isn’t conducting a full-blown trial on the FTC’s allegations, rather... Full story

RTW in Wisconsin is another step down the wrong road for working families

Mar. 10, 2015 | "Wisconsin is now the 25th state to adopt right-to-work laws as politicians like Walker push forward the agenda of their right-wing task masters," Hoffa said Monday in an official statement. "The Koch brothers, through Americans for Prosperity and the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) have poured millions of dollars into states across the country to push right-to-work legislation. These corporate interests will not stop in Wisconsin – they continue to attack working families, moving from state to state. We must remain strong and fight them wherever right-to-work legislation is introduced." Read the full statement...

Tell your senators to protect pension benefits

Mar. 26, 2015 | Vermont's Senator Bernie Sanders will be offering an amendment to the budget resolution bill that would protect the pensions of thousands of retirees in multiemployer pension plans. The Amendment allows the flexibility to honor a long-standing promise, particularly for fixed-income seniors that can least afford to have their financial security at risk, and to find other sources of revenue to shore up the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation. Please email your Senators today and ask them to support the Sanders Amendment should it come up for a vote.

Sysco, US Foods seek disclosure of FTC witness identities

Mar. 10, 2015 | The Federal Trade Commission (FTC) went head-to-head last week with Sysco Corp. and US Foods Inc. over whether to make public the names of the declarants relied on by the FTC in its preliminary injunction to block Sysco and US Foods’ merger. Sysco and US Foods filed a motion in a Washington, D.C. federal district court on March 6 asking the judge to publicize the names, which the FTC quickly opposed. Full story...

First Student bus workers join Local 570, contract talks underway

Mar. 12, 2015 | First Student school bus workers who transport children attending Baltimore City Public Schools voted to join Teamsters Local 570 in December 2014. The 113 drivers and monitors who work out of First Student bus yards in Baltimore and Severn, Md. were immediately covered by the Teamster First Student Master Agreement and Local 570 is currently bargaining a local supplement that will provide wages and benefits and address concerns of the Baltimore-based workers. Story and pictures at Local News.
Justice for fired Sysco Teamsters!

Mar. 19, 2015  |  Sysco Teamsters need our help today!
Sysco managers fired 15 union supporters in Atlanta and
fired three in Kansas City during recent successful
Teamster organizing drives in their facilities. Join us as
we demand justice by telling Sysco President and CEO William Delaney to reinstate these brave men and women
and bargain fair first contracts now!  Sign this letter today!

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