

1 SJR25
2 105760-1
3 By Senators Beason, Erwin, and Glover
4 RFD:
5 First Read: 12-FEB-09

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8 REQUESTING THAT THE CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION OF
9 ALABAMA OPPOSE LEGISLATION THAT DISENFRANCHISES WORKERS BY
10 REMOVING THEIR RIGHT TO A PRIVATE BALLOT UNION ELECTION.
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12 WHEREAS, the right to a private secret ballot when
13 voting on external representation is fundamentally inherent in
14 our representative Republic and should not be infringed upon;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, passing the Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA;
17 H.R. 800/S. 1041) will replace a federally supervised private
18 ballot election with a system that facilitates coercion and
19 intimidation, known as "card check," whereby employees
20 publically sign cards to vote for unionization; and

21 WHEREAS, 79 percent of the American people support a
22 worker's right to a federally supervised secret ballot
23 election when deciding whether or not to join a union; and

24 WHEREAS, the tri-partisan agreement to oppose the
25 EFCA is overwhelming: As 77 percent of Republicans, 82 percent
26 of Democrats, and 79 percent of independents believe in
27 protecting private ballots; and

1 WHEREAS, in July 2002, before a U.S. House
2 subcommittee, a union employee testified that those who would
3 not vote for a union in a public "card check" program were
4 threatened with termination, deportation, and loss of 401(k)
5 and health benefits; and

6 WHEREAS, even the Chairman of the U.S. House
7 Education and Labor Committee, Representative Miller (D-CA),
8 and staunch supporter of the American "card check" bill, sent
9 a letter to Mexican government officials which stated, ". . .
10 we feel that the private ballot is absolutely necessary in
11 order to ensure workers are not intimidated into voting for a
12 union they may otherwise not choose"; and

13 WHEREAS, the EFCA's mandatory binding arbitration
14 provisions deny workers the right to participate in the
15 collective bargaining process between employees and the union;
16 now therefore,

17 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
18 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we find that so-called "card
19 check" legislation such as the "Employee Free Choice Act" is
20 detrimental to the rights of workers and an offense against
21 democratic principles, and we urge all members of Alabama's
22 Congressional Delegation to support worker freedom by opposing
23 the EFCA and any of its components in 2009 and in future
24 years.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this
26 resolution shall be provided to each member of Alabama's
27 Congressional Delegation.

