

KEY VOTE ALERT!

September 14, 2011



Congressional & Public Affairs
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
1615 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.
20062-2000

202/463-5600

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the world's largest business federation, representing the interests of more than three million businesses and organizations of every size, sector, and region strongly supports H.R. 2587, the "Protecting Jobs from Government Interference Act" and additional appropriate legislation to rein-in the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) and Department of Labor (DOL).

The NLRB and DOL, through numerous decisions, proposed regulations, and other policy, are making it harder for businesses to justify investing in the United States. The most recent example is the complaint issued by the NLRB's Acting General Counsel to force The Boeing Company to relocate production of 787 Dreamliners from South Carolina to Washington State.

While Boeing will eventually have its day in court, the process will likely take years and exhaustive litigation expenses. In the meantime, businesses considering investing in new facilities in the United States will think twice and need to consider the risk that their decisions may be second guessed by the NLRB. By prohibiting the NLRB from seeking the extreme remedy forcing relocation of production, this legislation would help remove an element of uncertainty and encourage investment in new U.S. facilities.

While H.R. 2587 is an important step towards reining in NLRB and DOL, the Chamber believes Congress could do more. Congress should consider additional oversight and legislative options to restore balance to interpretation and enforcement of labor laws. Among the most serious issues threatening employers are:

- DOL proposed revision of the "advice" exemption, which is little more than an attempt to use disclosure regulations to bully employers into refraining from exercising their free speech rights;
- NLRB's proposed ambush election rules, which would make it significantly more difficult for employers, especially small employers, to respond to union campaigns; and
- NLRB's change to the rules for determining appropriate bargaining units, giving unions much greater ability to gerrymander units and create micro or fractured units.

DOL and NLRB have embarked on a course to increasingly destabilize the long-established balance struck by the National Labor Relations Act protecting employee, union, and employer rights and clearly Congress must act. H.R. 2587 would be an important first step to restoring the balance. **Due to the critical importance of this issue to the business community, the Chamber strongly supports H.R. 2587, and may consider votes on, or in relation to, H.R. 2587 in our annual How They Voted scorecard.**

Sincerely,

R. Bruce Josten