

Senate Resolution No. 1841

By Senator Huelskamp

3-10

9 A RESOLUTION urging the Kansas Congressional Delegation to oppose
10 legislation that disenfranchises workers by removing their right to a
11 private ballot union election.
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13 WHEREAS, The right to a private, secret ballot when voting on ex-
14 ternal representation is fundamentally inherent in our representative Re-
15 public and shall not be infringed upon; and

16 WHEREAS, Passing the Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA; H.R. 800/
17 S. 1041 as introduced in the 110th Congress) will replace a federally
18 supervised private ballot election with a system that facilitates coercion
19 and intimidation, known as “card check”, whereby employees publically
20 sign cards to vote for unionization; and

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

24 WHEREAS, Agreement in opposition to the EFCA is overwhelming;
25 with 77% of Republicans, 82% of Democrats and 79% of independents
26 believing in protecting private ballots; and

27 WHEREAS, In July 2002, before a United States House of Represen-
28 tatives subcommittee, a union employee testified that those who would
29 not vote for a union in a public “card check” program were threatened
30 with termination, deportation and loss of 401(k) and health benefits; and

31 WHEREAS, Chairman of the United States House of Representatives
32 Education and Labor Committee, Representative Miller (D-CA), a
33 staunch supporter of the American “card check” bill, sent a letter to
34 Mexican government officials which stated, “...we feel that the private
35 ballot is absolutely necessary in order to ensure workers are not intimi-
36 dated into voting for a union they may otherwise not choose.”; and

37 WHEREAS, The Employee Free Choice Act’s mandatory binding ar-
38 bitration provisions deny workers the right to participate in the collective
39 bargaining process between employees and the union: Now, therefore,

40 *Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Kansas:* That we find so-
41 called “card check” legislation such as the Employee Free Choice Act to
42 be detrimental to the rights of workers and an offence against democratic
43 principles and that we urge all the members of the Kansas Congressional

1 Delegation to support worker freedom by opposing the EFCA and any
2 of its components in 2010 and in future years; and
3 Be it further resolved: That the Secretary of the Senate be directed to
4 provide an enrolled copy of this resolution to each member of the Kansas
5 Congressional Delegation.