

Worker's Rights are Human Rights Campaign

The nationwide attacks on workers' human rights that started in Wisconsin present enormous challenges but also tremendous opportunities for all TWU members.

This moment has heightened our awareness and sense of urgency. It has captured our attention and brought renewed energy, motivation and a shared sense of commitment to fight back.

All TWU members must seize this moment filled with motivation and readiness to benefit from conducting a common effort around a common campaign to make sure that from this day forward, all over the country and around the world, **Workers' Rights are Human Rights!**

The TWU Workers' Rights are Human Rights Campaign is the priority focus for our union for the foreseeable future.

As the media changes focus from workers in Madison Wisconsin to the earthquake in Japan and the uprising in the middle east to Libya; we must keep Worker Rights at the fore front of our priorities.

Workers' rights to organize and bargain collectively are under attack all over the country, particularly in states where newly anti-union governors and legislatures are in power. The right to collective bargaining is the essence of democracy in the workplace. It is a process that is supposed to work in both good and bad times. The right to form Unions and bargain collectively is the single most contributor to creating a solid middle class that made the USA the great country it is.

Therefore, on Monday, 4 April 2011, we ask all TWU local 514 members to wear their new union shirt weather you are at work, on your day off or on vacation, wear your union colors.

If possible, sign up for the WE ARE ONE rally as posted on the union boards and printed in the previous Informer. If you are not in Oklahoma then participate in your local area We Are One Rally; you can sign up online at <http://local.we-r-1.org/>.



Anti-Union Bill 1593

On March 28, 2011, the Oklahoma Senate [passed a bill through committee](#) that would remove the requirement of collective bargaining for cities with more than 35,000 residents. There are 13 such cities in Oklahoma. After massive, statewide Republican election gains in November, the climate is not exactly union-friendly. The bill and its method of passage bear the trademarks of 2011 collective bargaining attacks by the Far Right:

- The bill was passed *along party lines* (5R to 3D)
- The bill overturns a recent law (from 2004)
- The bill does not affect police and firefighters

It should be noted that Oklahoma's state motto is "**Labor Omnia Vincit.**"

That is Latin for "Labor Conquers All Things."

From the [Norman Transcript](#):

Matt Thomas, a Midwest City water treatment center worker, said collective bargaining is more about workers having a voice on issues important to them. He said a new contract approved last year requires the city to buy heavy coats and coveralls for employees who work outside and provide safety spikes for their boots to protect them from slips and falls during snow and ice.

"A lot of it has nothing to do with wages at all," said Thomas, chairman of the Midwest City chapter of the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Union. "It's about safety and having a voice in the workplace."

URGENT! URGENT! URGENT!

HB 1593 - Repeal of OK Municipal Employees Collective Bargaining Act passed out of Senate Committee. It can be heard on the Senate Floor at any time.

Please contact your Senator and ask him/her to vote NO.

Senator	Phone	Senator	Phone
Tom Adelson (D)	405-521-5551	Constance Johnson (D)	405-521-5531
Cliff Aldridge (R)	405-521-5584	Rob Johnson (R)	405-521-5592
Mark Allen (R)	405-521-5576	Clark Jolley (R)	405-521-5622
Patrick Anderson (R)	405-521-5630	Ron Justice (R)	405-521-5537
Roger Ballenger (D)	405-521-5588	Charlie Laster (D)	405-521-5539
Don Barrington (R)	405-521-5563	Richard Lerblance (D)	405-521-5604
Randy Bass (D)	405-521-5567	Bryce Marlatt (R)	405-521-5626
Brian Bingman (R)	405-521-5528	Mike Mazzei (R)	405-521-5675
Cliff Branan (R)	405-521-5543	David Myers (R)	405-521-5628
Josh Brecheen (R)	405-521-5586	Dan Newberry (R)	405-521-5600
Rick Brinkley (R)	405-521-5566	Jonathan Nichols (R)	405-521-5535
Bill Brown (R)	405-521-5602	Susan Paddock (D)	405-521-5541
Sean Burrage (D)	405-521-5555	Jim Reynolds (R)	405-521-5522
Harry Coates (R)	405-521-5547	Andrew Rice (D)	405-521-5610
Brian Crain (R)	405-521-5620	Steve Russell (R)	405-521-5618
Kim David (R)	405-521-5590	Mike Schulz (R)	405-521-5612
Judy Eason McIntyre (D)	405-521-5598	Ralph Shortey (R)	405-521-5557
Jerry Ellis (D)	405-521-5614	Frank Simpson (R)	405-521-5607
Eddie Fields (R)	405-521-5581	John Sparks (D)	405-521-5553
John Ford (R)	405-521-5634	Gary Stanislawski (R)	405-521-5624
Earl Garrison (D)	405-521-5533	Anthony Sykes (R)	405-521-5569
Jim Halligan (R)	405-521-5572	Greg Treat (R)	405-521-5632
David Holt (R)	405-521-5636	Jim Wilson (D)	405-521-5574
Tom Ivester (D)	405-521-5545	Charles Wyrick (D)	405-521-5561

If you do not know your Senator, you may go to <http://www.oklegislature.gov/> and on the bottom right hand side click on "**Find My Legislator**"



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