

2 unions come out against Supreme Court nominee

By Mark Gruenberg
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WASHINGTON, D.C. — Citing his record in labor, civil rights, womens' rights, and related cases, two big unions — Communications Workers of America (CWA) and the National Education Association (NEA) — and six AFL-CIO constituency groups have opposed President Donald Trump's nomination of federal appellate judge Neil Gorsuch to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Besides CWA and NEA, the A. Philip Randolph Institute, the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, the Coalition of Labor Union Women, the Asian-Pacific American Labor Alliance, Pride at Work, and Labor's Council for Latin American Advancement were among 107 groups that signed a joint anti-Gorsuch letter to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

The Leadership Conference for Civil and Human Rights crafted the letter, which cites specific Gorsuch court decisions and dissents against workers.

CWA President Chris Shelton cited Gorsuch's "record of aligning with corporate interests," and his criticisms of "remarkable powers" of "worker protection agencies... whose enforcement mechanisms are already too weak to be effective."

Shelton said Gorsuch has argued that protecting corporations from litigation is more important than protecting investors from being cheated. "He seems predisposed to favor the 'big guy' over the 'little guy.' That's not the kind of court America needs," he said.

NEA President Lily Es-kelsen-Garcia said Gorsuch has ruled against students with disabilities who seek public education, and "has consistently sided with big business at the expense of working Americans."

The Leadership Conference letter called Gorsuch "a judge with an agenda."

"If confirmed ... Judge Gorsuch would tip the balance" on the High Court "in a direction that would undermine many of our core rights and legal protections. He lacks the impartiality and independence the American people expect and deserve from the federal bench."

The Senate panel's hearings on the nomination are scheduled for March 20-23.



WHAT IS A UNION?

IT'S SIMPLE, REALLY

UNIONS ARE WORKERS WHO STAND TOGETHER to bargain with their bosses for better pay, safer working conditions and decent benefits. When workers stand together, we have power. And that power makes the American Dream more possible for everyone.

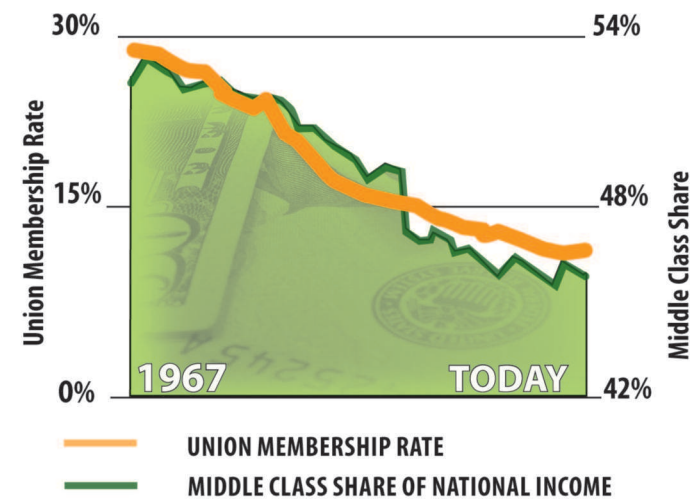
WHO NEEDS UNIONS?

WE ALL DO. Corporate CEOs have gotten rich by negotiating multi-million dollar pay packages for themselves while not allowing workers to negotiate a living wage for our families. Unions even the playing field for all workers by standing up to big corporations and fighting for laws that protect everyone.

WHAT HAVE UNIONS DONE FOR ME?

WORKING PEOPLE STOOD TOGETHER in their unions to create the 40-hour work week, paid vacations and good American wages. Today, unions are still the only counterbalance to corporate power.

AS UNION MEMBERSHIP DECREASES, MIDDLE CLASS INCOME SHRINKS



UNIONS RAISE STANDARDS FOR ALL WORKERS

- FAMILY & MEDICAL LEAVE ACT
- PREGNANCY & PARENTAL LEAVE
- ALL BREAKS AT WORK (INCLUDING LUNCH BREAKS)
- WEEKENDS & PAID VACATION
- SICK LEAVE
- MINIMUM WAGE
- SOCIAL SECURITY
- OVERTIME & HOLIDAY PAY
- CHILD LABOR LAWS
- PRIVACY RIGHTS
- CIVIL RIGHTS
- HOMEOWNERS' BILL OF RIGHTS
- 40-HOUR WORK WEEK
- OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY & HEALTH ACT (OSHA)
- 8-HOUR WORK DAY
- MILITARY LEAVE
- PROTECTIONS FOR IMMIGRANT WORKERS
- WORKERS' COMPENSATION
- UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE
- WRONGFUL TERMINATION LAWS
- SEXUAL HARASSMENT LAWS
- AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)
- EMPLOYER DENTAL, LIFE, & VISION INSURANCE
- EQUAL PAY ACTS OF 1963 & 2011
- AND MORE!

DO WE STILL NEED UNIONS? WE NEED UNIONS MORE THAN EVER.

Big corporations and Wall Street bankers are dismantling the American Dream by outsourcing our jobs, slashing wages and eliminating retirement just to get bigger bonuses for themselves. Today, the only thing that stands in their way is working people standing together to make sure everyone has a fair shot.



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FOR OREGON'S WORKERS**

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