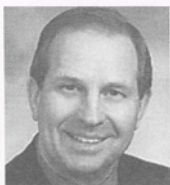


Voting For Workers, Harder for Some Than Others

Republican Leadership Makes it Tough on Pro-Worker Republicans

Our union is an issue-based organization operating in a very partisan political setting. Workers come to the capitol and lobby Democrats and Republicans. But Republican legislators faced a tough challenge this session. Republican Party leadership called on legislators to toe an anti-worker line on a wide variety of bills.



Sen. David Nelson
R-Pendleton

Despite the pressure, there were individual Republicans who stood up for workers and bucked party leadership. This is a dangerous step because leadership has the power to deny individual legislators power, perks, and the chance to have a voice in the process.

Senator David Nelson (R – Pendleton) is one legislator who stood up on several key issues for our members. He led the successful fight (along with Representative Bob Jenson R-Pendleton) to maintain continuity of care for developmentally disabled clients at Eastern Oregon Training Center. Keeping the facility open saved more than 200 of our members' jobs.

Senator Nelson also cast key votes for workers to support the right to organize. The right to have a union and to have a voice on the job is fundamental. Senator Nelson voted to give child care and adult foster care providers the right to form a union. **Senator Nelson's overall rating is not as strong as some of his colleagues, but his willingness to cast votes for workers-in opposition to his party-merits special recognition.**



Senate President Peter Courtney (D) and House Speaker Jeff Merkley (D) showed leadership by championing issues for working families and pushing their members to vote for workers.

Percentage of Time Legislators Voted with SEIU on Issues

