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Mission

The Chillicothe Ross Chamber of Commerce promotes economic and community development by providing services and addressing issues important to business.

Chillicothe Ross Chamber of Commerce

March 12, 2009

Representative Zachary T. Space
315 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-3518

Dear Representative Space:

I can't state it any clearer: Our chamber is in total opposition to the Employee Free Choice Act. Our hope is that you will vote against this job-killing legislation at every opportunity. The fact you are a co-sponsor shouldn't keep you from changing your mind when the crucial time comes for a vote.

I know you have heard from many of the owners or operators of businesses in your 18th Congressional District who have expressed their fears about the possible extreme ramifications if this legislation becomes law. I know I have heard from many of my 670 members who continue to urge this chamber to express to you their sincere hope you will oppose this legislation and urge your colleagues to do the same.

My members wonder if you truly:

- Support essentially taking away the secret ballot from your constituents who might want to form a union and those who don't want to be part of a union.
- Support having the federal government determine the terms of a binding, two-year contract on your constituents and the businesses in your district if they can't agree to terms.
- Support much stiffer penalties on the businesses in your district if they violate provisions of the new law with no similar repercussions for the unions.

Our members hope you listen to the likes of Warren Buffett and George McGovern, both of whom have expressed their opposition to this legislation. They both know, as do our members, that this legislation is the exact opposite of what President Obama and Congress are trying to do to kick-start the economy.

Our members appreciate all your efforts to help the people of the 18th District find and keep good-paying jobs with benefits. Our members are the ones who will be creating those jobs. Our members also know this legislation is a huge step backward in trying to make that happen.

As you know well by now, some votes you cast are more important than others. It's easy to support national days of recognition for certain causes and groups of people. This issue, though, will be a defining one for this Congress.

It is the sincere hope of this chamber and our members that you will vote for legislation that helps our members create better paying jobs for your constituents and vote against legislation that hobbles those who will create them with totally unnecessary roadblocks and hurdles. The Employee Free Choice Act is terrible legislation.

We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marvin Jones". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Marvin Jones
President and CEO