



BUSINESS & INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION
New Hampshire's Statewide
Chamber of Commerce

April 22, 2021

Dear Senator Shaheen:

We, the undersigned New Hampshire chambers of commerce and trade associations, urge you to oppose HR 842, also known as the "PRO" Act (Protecting the Right to Organize Act).

The PRO Act is an ill-advised attempt to fundamentally restructure American workplaces and infringe on workers' rights to a secret ballot, workplace democracy and personal privacy. It would undo the carefully crafted balance between labor and management that has existed since 1947 with the creation of the Labor Management Relations Act. The legislation would authorize "secondary boycotts" allowing unions to launch disruptive protests and pickets against any employer, even those that have nothing to do with a labor dispute. It would undermine the collective bargaining process by imposing union contracts if the union and employers are unable to reach an agreement. It would ban employment arbitration agreements increasing needless class action lawsuits.

The PRO Act also would harm scores of short-term and freelance workers by imposing California's stringent definition of "independent contractor" on the entire country. This would restrict the freedoms of gig economy workers, such as contractors for Uber, Lyft, Instacart and Doordash.

These are just a few of the many "anti-employer" provisions of the PRO Act. Distressingly, this legislation is being considered in the middle of a global pandemic in which many employers are supplying Americans with medicine, protective equipment, services, and goods necessary to defeat COVID-19. Critical supply chain disruptions in manufacturing and transportation of COVID-19 vaccines, PPE, ventilation equipment and goods could be threatened and susceptible to disruptions due to this legislation.

The PRO Act is an unwarranted attempt to significantly disrupt the balance between unions, workers and employers in favor of organized labor. Collectively, we respectfully ask you to reconsider your support of it.

Sincerely,

Jim Roche
President
Business & Industry Association

Mike Somers
President/CEO
New Hampshire Lodging & Restaurant Assoc.

Bruce Berke
State Director
National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB)

Joshua Reap
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PROMOTING A HEALTHY CLIMATE FOR JOB CREATION AND A STRONG NEW HAMPSHIRE ECONOMY

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