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House Democrats Look to Backdoor Mandatory Unionization Provisions

The Alliance for Worker Freedom opposes H.R. 4899, the Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Bill, as it has been inappropriately amended to include legislation that forces the unionization of public safety workers – police officers, firefighters, and emergency medical personnel. Under H.R. 4899, states would be forced to permit union bargaining over wages, hours, and all terms and conditions of employment.

Making no attempt to remain impartial, H.R. 4899 reads:

In many public safety agencies, it is the union that provides the institutional stability as elected leaders and appointees come and go... The Federal Government needs to encourage conciliation, mediation, and voluntary arbitration to aid and encourage employers and the representatives of their employees to reach and maintain agreements concerning rates of pay, hours, and working conditions, and to make all reasonable efforts through negotiations to settle their differences by mutual agreement reached through collective bargaining or by such methods as may be provided for in any applicable agreement for the settlement of disputes.

Policy with such sweeping implications should not be passed through legislative maneuvering, but be subject to an up or down vote in both the House and Senate.

Echoing AWF's position, leaders from the National Coalition of Counties, National League of Cities, International City/Country, National Sheriffs' Association, the International Public Management Association for Human Resources, International Municipal Lawyers Association, National Public Employer Labor Relations Association, the National Association of Towns and Townships, a coalition representing 3,066 counties, 19,000 cities and towns, sent a letter to Congress urging Members to exclude mandatory public employee unionization language from the Supplementary war bill.

For more information, contact AWF executive director Brian Johnson at 202.785.0066 or bjohnson@workerfreedom.org.

AWF Urges a “No” Vote on H.R. 4899

Alliance for Worker Freedom (AWF) is a special project of Americans for Tax Reform dedicated to the protection of workers rights. For more information or to arrange an interview, please contact John Kartch at (202) 785-0266,

jkartch@atr.org

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722 12TH STREET, N.W.

4TH FLOOR

WASHINGTON DC 20005

WORKERFREEDOM.COM

(P) 202.785.0266

(F) 202.785.0261