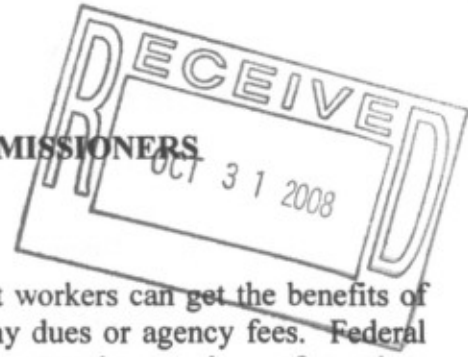


**LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Resolution**

**#10/08/08 1176**



- WHEREAS,** the Right-to-Work (RTW) laws state that workers can get the benefits of having a union without having to pay any dues or agency fees. Federal law already protects workers who elect not to be members of a union. RTW forces unions to spend members' resources and dues to cover and protect their dues-paying members as well as those who choose not to join. This weakens the union, collective bargaining and the contract. To be fair, everyone should pay their share for negotiating and administering the contract that covers all workers, members and non-members alike; and
- WHEREAS,** the National Right-to-Work Committee is funded by large anti-union corporations and insurance companies to ensure that the interests of the most wealthy in the country are served. Right-to-Work laws work to diminish the middle class and further widen the gap between the working poor and the rich; and
- WHEREAS,** Right-to-Work laws do not guarantee that states will have a competitive edge. For example, between 1994 and 2005, a RTW state had a greater decline in manufacturing jobs than Michigan. Oklahoma, the only state to adopt RTW laws in 46 years, has lost over 22,000 manufacturing jobs after RTW legislation took effect; and
- WHEREAS,** Workers in Right-to-Work states make an average of \$5,900 less per year than their counterparts in non-RTW states; the rate of workplace fatalities is 44% higher in RTW states; a higher poverty and infant mortality level exists in RTW states; RTW states spend \$2,260 less per student on K-12 education; Workers compensation benefits are lower in RTW states; workers in RTW states have fewer health benefits than those in non-RTW states and the population without health insurance was 20% higher in Right-to-Work states; and
- WHEREAS,** Right-To-Work laws make it harder for unions to represent workers effectively, with the harmful consequences for both union and non-union workers as well as the communities in which they live; and
- WHEREAS,** Lake County has always promoted fair labor practices and labor union goals; and
- WHEREAS,** "Right-To-Work" legislation should be opposed on all levels;

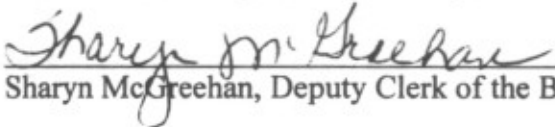
**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Lake County Board of Commissioners strongly urges opposition to House Bill 4454-4455 and Senate Bill 607-608 and goes on record in opposition to any legislation in the U.S. Congress or the State of Michigan that would make Michigan a Right-To-Work State;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Governor Granholm, Lake County Legislators, all Michigan counties and the Michigan Association of Counties.

**STATE OF MICHIGAN)**  
**COUNTY OF LAKE )**

I, Sharyn McGreehan, Deputy Clerk of the Board of Commissioners for the County of Lake, do hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true and correct copy of a resolution passed by the Lake County Board of Commissioners at a regular meeting held on June 25, 2008.

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal at Baldwin, Michigan, this 28th day of June, 2008.

  
Sharyn McGreehan, Deputy Clerk of the Board