

April 7, 2010

The Honorable Harry Reid  
522 Hart Senate Office Bldg  
Washington, DC 20510  
202-224-3542

Dear Senator Reid:

The Reno Sparks Chamber of Commerce, northern Nevada's largest business organization, remains opposed to the Employee Free Choice Act (EFCA). EFCA would put pressure on already struggling businesses by increasing costs and regulations and dramatically reducing flexibility. In the current economic climate, we must do everything we can to protect and help expand Nevada's economic vitality, not make it worse.

EFCA would force a greater federal government presence on the workplace. If a company and union are unable to agree to a contract within four months, the terms of the contract will be forced upon them through binding arbitration by government officials who will set employee compensation, benefits, and working conditions. In this circumstance, employees will be deprived of their right to vote on the final contract, yet still forced to work under its terms.

Binding arbitration would also make evenhanded collective bargaining impossible because employers will be negotiating against an arbitrary deadline. Union negotiators may manipulate the process by stalling or making extreme and insincere demands. Because the arbitrator can sometimes take two years to reach a conclusion, businesses will be paralyzed from moving forward with important decisions. This may do irreparable harm to a business's viability and the long-term employment of the workers supposedly served by the process.

At a time where we must be focusing on keeping businesses alive, EFCA is a piece of legislation that would have devastating consequences for the business community, its employees and the citizens of Nevada

Thank you for your attention to this issue, and I hope you will join the Chamber in voicing opposition to this legislation.

Sincerely,



Douglas R. Kurkul  
CEO

