

Administration Highlights on Ohio's Results to Restore Collective Bargaining Rights

*The information below contains quotes and key commentary from the Administration and Campaign over the past several days regarding the importance of Collective Bargaining Rights and the recent Victory in Ohio to repeal SB 5. While we celebrate success in Ohio we must remember **the fight is not over**. Please review the links and information below. Pass it on to your members. Let your members see why we need to re-elect President Barack Obama and Vice-President Joseph Biden and encourage them to visit [Education Votes](#) to find out how they can help.*

Statement by Vice President Biden on Tuesday's Vote in Ohio

"Tonight the people of Ohio delivered a gigantic victory for the middle class with their overwhelming rejection of a Republican attempt to strip away collective bargaining rights. Fundamental fairness has prevailed. By standing with teachers and firefighters and cops, Ohio has sent a loud and clear message that will be heard all across the country: The middle class will no longer be trampled on. The people of Ohio are to be congratulated."

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2011/11/09/victory-middle-class-ohio>

The [White House Weighs In On Anti-Union Law Repeal Vote](#)

The White House just weighed in on the repeal of Gov. John Kasich's anti-collective bargaining law in Ohio, with Press Secretary Jay Carney offering the following statement:

"The President congratulates the people of Ohio for standing up for workers and defeating efforts to strip away collective bargaining rights, and commends the teachers, firefighters, nurses, police officers and other workers who took a stand to defend those rights. "

President Obama Expresses his Opinion on Collective Bargaining Rights in America.

In his joint address to Congress to introduce the [American Jobs Act](#), President Obama [touched on the importance of collective bargaining](#) -- and why doing away with those rights is not the way to get people back to work:

"I reject the idea that we have to strip away collective bargaining rights to compete in a global economy. We shouldn't be in a race to the bottom, where we try to offer the cheapest labor and the worst pollution standards. America should be in a race to the top. And I believe we can win that race." <http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2011/11/09/victory-middle-class-ohio>

STATEMENT BY U.S. SECRETARY OF EDUCATION ARNE DUNCAN

On the Results of Tuesday's Vote in Ohio on Collective Bargaining

Today, in advance of his visit to Cincinnati, Ohio, U.S. Secretary of Education Arne Duncan issued the following statement regarding the decision by Ohio voters to repeal restrictions on collective bargaining rights for public workers in the state:

“The voters of Ohio sent a clear signal that they support collective bargaining rights and they want to work together to rebuild their economy, strengthen the middle class and improve public education. I salute the unions and their allies for their successful effort to support workers rights, and I look forward to working with all of the people of Ohio to meet our common goals.”

US Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis weighs in on Tuesday’s Ohio Election Results.

Last night, Ohio voters delivered a bona fide victory for public sector workers everywhere.

After months of advocacy and organizing, the people of Ohio have defeated a law that would have silenced the middle class and curtailed the collective bargaining rights of thousands of teachers, firefighters and police officers. Ohio has made it clear: these dedicated public servants still need a seat at the table to demand fairness, dignity and respect--especially in tough economic times. Through their unions, they have a voice in their workplace, in their future and, most importantly, in our future.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/rep-hilda-l-solis/celebrating-the-voice-of_b_1084601.html

DNC Chair Debbie Wasserman Schultz's Statement on Tuesday's Vote Vetoing Anti-Worker Law in Ohio

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Washington, D.C. – Following Tuesday’s vote on Issue 2, in which Ohio voters struck down SB 5, the anti-workers’ rights measure passed by Republicans in Ohio and signed into law by Republican Governor John Kasich, DNC Chair Debbie Wasserman Schultz released the following statement:

“Tonight’s vote was a victory for middle class families across the state of Ohio, whose basic workplace protections – including the collective bargaining rights of Ohio’s public employees – were under assault as a result of SB 5. Tonight, Ohio’s voters rejected Issue 2 as a blatantly partisan attempt to lay the blame for our economy on middle class Americans, while letting the wealthiest and special interests off the hook and not asking them to pay their fair share. Voters in Ohio know that targeting public employees for political reasons will do nothing to create jobs or boost Ohio’s economy.

“I want to congratulate Organized Labor, Democratic activists and public employees for overcoming the likes of Mitt Romney and the millions of dollars in Tea Party and special interest money which poured into Ohio to prop up this misguided effort and the unpopular Governor who pursued it. Issue 2 and Senate Bill 5 were clearly designed by Governor Kasich and his Republican allies in the state legislature to pander to the most extreme right-wing elements of the Republican Party. With misguided priorities like these, it’s not hard to see why Governor

Kasich is routinely ranked as among the most unpopular governors in the country. Tonight's vote was a defeat for Ohio Republicans, and it was a defeat for Republican presidential candidates like Romney who supported the effort to take away the rights of Ohio's workers. Their actions were an insult to working families across the state—an insult Ohio voters won't soon forget."