LOBBY VISIT INFORMATION
June 25, 2024 – June 26, 2024

After completing this form, please return it to a member of the CWA HQ Legislative-Political staff or e-mail a copy to lobbyvisits@cwa-union.org.

CWA Member Name:	Congressmember's Name:
Member Local:	Congressional Staff Name:

Tax Fairness for Workers Act (H.R. 4963/S. 738)

- Prior to the enactment of the TCJA, the tax code allowed workers to deduct unreimbursed business expenses, such as union dues, business travel costs, uniform expenses, and professional or training classes.
- However, in 2017, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act eliminated the deduction for union dues to prioritize massive tax cuts for large corporations at the expense of American workers.
- Unions play a critical role in addressing inequality and boosting the prosperity of the middle class and one way that Congress can recognize labor's contributions is to provide an above the line tax deduction for union dues.
- The Tax Fairness for Workers Act would help by:
  - Restoring the deduction for union dues by creating an above-the-line tax deduction.
  - This will allow workers to claim the tax credit without itemizing their taxes and makes it available to more workers.
- Since only around 11 percent of tax filers itemize deductions, even more workers in various sectors and earning various wages would benefit from this legislation.
- This would help put money in the pockets of the hardworking people who need it most, instead of wealthy corporate executives.
- Tax-deductible union dues makes dues more affordable and sends a signal to workers that the government believes union dues to be a worthwhile expense like homeownership, charity and retirement savings.

OUR ASK: Will the Senator/Representative cosponsor Tax Fairness for Workers Act H.R. (4963/S. 738)?

_____ Supports _____ Opposes _____ Undecided

Comments/Follow-up Information Needed:

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No Tax Breaks for Outsourcing Act (H.R. 884/S. 357)

- Multinational companies have spent years shifting money, production, and jobs to countries with lax standards, where they can exploit workers who have few rights and are paid low wages.
- For years our tax code supported this behavior by providing incentives for companies to outsource jobs.
- The Trump Tax Cuts and Jobs Act worsened this problem by:
  - Providing huge new incentives for companies to shift jobs overseas
  - Allowing companies to deduct half of their offshore income, creating a 10.5% maximum corporate tax rate for offshore income, compared to 21% for domestic income.
  - Providing companies with an additional tax break of 10% on tangible investments made overseas, such as facilities and equipment.
- Many companies claimed that they would use these tax savings to create jobs. But companies like AT&T, have instead continued to outsource jobs, while they cut nearly 120,000 jobs in the United States since 2018.
- The No Tax Breaks for Outsourcing Act would repeal these deductions by:
  - Eliminating the tax incentive to move factories and call centers overseas by ensuring that companies would not be able to slash their tax bills by moving those jobs overseas.
  - Enacting a series of other changes that would block corporate efforts to dodge taxes by shifting funds to tax havens and by deducting enormous levels of interest on debt owed to foreign subsidiaries.
- We support this bill because we believe that our tax code should benefit working families, ensure that the super-wealthy and multinational corporations pay their fair share, and keep good jobs here in the United States.

OUR ASK: Will the Senator/Representative cosponsor No Tax Breaks for Outsourcing Act (H.R. 884/S. 357)?

_____ Supports _____ Opposes _____ Undecided

Comments/Follow-up Information Needed:

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No Tax Breaks for Union Busting Act (H.R. 5428/S. 737)

- With the recent wave of union organizing across the country, anti-union activity has exploded in popularity, and employers now routinely resist workers' rights to organize.
- In CWA's experience, employers like Google, Verizon Wireless, Apple and Maximus all spend money to intimidate, coerce and hold meetings with workers to intimidate them from union organizing.
- Companies spend at least $340 million a year on anti-union activities such as:
  - Holding mandatory "captive audience" meetings in which employees are pressured to stop unionizing
  - Hiring anti-union consulting firms
  - Developing and distributing materials opposing the union to employees
  - Preventing union organizers from communicating with workers at their worksites
- Current tax law allows companies to deduct money spent on anti-union campaigns as ordinary and necessary business expenses.
- In effect, the tax code ***rewards*** companies for opposing workers' labor rights.
- American taxpayers are subsidizing employer intimidation and bullying tactics of union organizing.
- The No Tax Breaks for Union Busting Act would end the taxpayer subsidization of anti-union activity as it would:
  - Classify business' interference in worker organization campaigns like political speech under the tax code, making it non tax deductible.
  - Establish an IRS reporting requirement for employers who intervene in protected labor activities
  - Disallow deductions for employer expenses used to deter workers from organizing a union.

OUR ASK: Will the Senator/Representative cosponsor No Tax Breaks for Union Busting Act (H.R. 5428/S. 737)?

_____ Supports _____ Opposes _____ Undecided

Comments/Follow-up Information Needed:

Letter to Maximus CEO Bruce Casewell

- Maximus, Inc. is a major federal contractor specializing in outsourcing government services such as call centers.
- Maximus currently has a $6.6 billion contract under HHS with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to employ call center workers who handle Medicare and Affordable Care Act (ACA) calls.
- These workers began organizing to form a union in 2017. However, nearly seven years later, they continue to organize to demand improvements at work, including affordable health coverage for themselves and their families, job security, living wages, and the ability to form a union free from interference by their employer.
- In November, 700 workers walked off the job in the largest federal call center strike in history, including workers from seven states, to protest their working conditions.
- The call center workers themselves report that Maximus has responded to their organizing efforts with a campaign of intimidation aimed at silencing workers, resulting in numerous unfair labor practice (ULP) charges.
- These ULP charges include allegations that Maximus:
    - Discharged employees in retaliation for engaging in protected concerted activity and union activity (including speaking out against racial disparities at Maximus)
    - Threatened employees with layoff and worksite closures
    - Granted special benefits to non-striking employees while depriving strikers of those same benefits
    - Coerced and threatened a union supporter
    - Summoned the police on workers while they were engaging in a lawful strike
    - Disciplined an employee in retaliation for participating in the strike and retaliated and discriminated against a union supporter
- All workers should have the free and fair choice to join a union, as is required by law.
- President Biden took executive action early in his administration to raise the minimum wage for federally contracted workers to more than fifteen dollars per hour and to protect current workers from displacement when new contractors are selected, and we're hoping to build on his work.
- Rep. Schakowsky is circulating a sign on letter urging the Maximus CEO to adopt a neutrality agreement and to commit to negotiating with workers in good faith.

OUR ASK: Will the Representative show their support for these workers by signing onto this letter?

_____ Supports   _____ Opposes   _____ Undecided

Comments/Follow-up Information Needed:

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