

## Unions Stop 'Right to Work' in New Mexico

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**By Jerry Levine, LaborPress USA**

Albuquerque, NM - Union members from all over New Mexico testified and lobbied against 'union-busting' 'Right to Work' legislation recently introduced by Republicans.



The measure, designed to lead to lower wages for workers in New Mexico, was stopped by organized labor.

'Our workers are better off in New Mexico with better wages,' said House Majority Leader Sheryl William Stapleton (D-Albuquerque). With effective organizing by unions, the Republican push to enact Right to Work in New Mexico was dead on arrival.

Voting 6-5 along party lines in the House Labor and Economic Development Committee, the lawmakers officially tabled the measure.

The Economic Policy Institute found that workers in Right to Work states earn at least 3.2 percent less on average and are less likely to have employer-sponsored health coverage or pension plans. By stripping workers of their rights and freedoms, business owners would be free to lower worker pay, reduce worker benefits, and ignore worker rights.

'We continue to see Right to Work advocates attempt to push their agenda through negative and misleading information,' says Richard Dalton, business manager for the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE) Local 18 in Ohio. 'By telling the truth we're able to expose the dangers of Right to Work and help voters help themselves.'