



**The Issue:** Card Check

**Background:**

Current law allows companies to petition for a federally supervised secret ballot election on whether to have a union in their workplace. It allows employers and union workers to make their case to employees.

After a union comes in and negotiates a contract with management, the workers have a right to vote on the new work agreement that governs things like wages, benefits, and working conditions.

The right to vote on collective bargaining agreements is in jeopardy. Proponents of the so-called “Employee Free Choice Act”, federal forced unionism legislation, want to abolish private ballot elections and allow unions to organize just by collecting signatures on union cards, often pressuring workers in public. They then want to allow federally appointed arbitrators to write union contracts that would be forced on employers and workers without their consent.

This is an enormous assault on our democratic values and on our rights here in Texas. Our state has a rich right-to-work tradition, and the vast majority of Texas workers have never chosen to join a union. The federal government has no right to step in and force us to adopt laws that destroy the rights of workers to decide whether or not to join the union, and whether or not to adopt a union contract.

**Current Party Position:**

The **Republican Party of Texas** platform includes this issue under “Right-to-Work”. It currently reads: *“Right-to-Work – We oppose the Employee Free Choice Act and any action that eliminates the secret ballot. Every worker should have freedom to work in their preferred job without being forced to join or pay dues to any organization. Our Right-to-Work Law has provided this freedom and a good climate for industrial expansion, higher employment, and a stable management-labor relationship. We encourage adoption of a National Right-to-Work Act.”*

The **Libertarian Party of Texas, Constitution Party of Texas, Green Party, & Democratic Party** platforms do not include this issue.

**Proposed Party Platform Language:**

BE IT RESOLVED, that we oppose any efforts to adopt the so-called “Employee Free Choice Act” or any similar acts or efforts which would remove the secret ballot from the union organizing process or force mandatory arbitration for labor contracts.

Signed:

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*Who we are: Americans for Prosperity (AFP) is a nationwide organization of citizen leaders committed to advancing every individual's right to economic freedom and opportunity. AFP believes reducing the size and scope of government is the best safeguard to ensuring individual productivity and prosperity for all Americans. AFP educates and engages citizens in support of restraining state and federal government growth, and returning government to its constitutional limits. For more information, visit [www.americansforprosperity.org](http://www.americansforprosperity.org)*