

January 16, 2020

Every Worker Deserves Dignity

It's time to pass the Protecting the Right to Organize (PRO) Act (H.R. 2474).

Today, 441 workers at Materion, a beryllium-producing facility in Ohio, will cast their votes to become members of the United Steelworkers. [Their organizing effort is driven by frustration with a company that ignores their health and safety concerns, dehumanizes them, and makes them feel as if they were replaceable liabilities.](#) Their employer is forcing them to attend meetings run by company-hired union busters who tell them half-truths, belittle them, and provide no opportunity to ask questions.

“Before the busters came in, we had more support. The meetings have been relentless. They have set out to divide and conquer and they have done just that.” – A Materion worker

Union supporters fear being fired by the company as retaliation if the vote doesn't go their way.

“This is our asses on the line. If this doesn't happen, I may not have a job to come back to – I am an at-will employee and they have made that clear. Now I have a target on my back for trying to stand up for myself and my coworkers.”

– Another Materion worker



Sister Kathy Palin sorts signs as supporters of the organizing drive prepare for a solidarity action at Materion's gates.

We need the PRO Act. This bill would prohibit employers like Materion from forcing their employees to attend anti-union meetings. It would establish civil penalties of up to \$50,000 for employers who illegally retaliate against workers for organizing, so workers do not have to fear losing their jobs for standing up for themselves. [And, that's just the start.](#) It is the most comprehensive pro-labor legislation since the establishment of the National Labor Relations Act of 1935.

A vote is expected in the coming weeks in the U.S. House. [Representatives need to know their support for the PRO Act is both essential and expected.](#) Every worker must have the fundamental right to organize without unfair and illegal discrimination by employers. Corporations are weighing in. We must too!

Make a Quick Call Today!

Action Instructions:

- Dial our toll-free number to the U.S. House: 866-202-5409. You will be automatically routed to your Representative's office.
- Tell the office who you are and where you are from, and ask your Representative to VOTE YES on the PRO Act (H.R. 2474).

