

**FreshPlaza: Global
Fresh Produce and
Banana News**



- [News](#)
- [Archive](#)
- [Job Offers](#)
- [Photos](#)
- [PriceWatch](#)
- [World Retailers](#)
- [Subscribe](#)
- [vegetables](#)
- [fruit](#)
- [bananas](#)
- [citrus](#)
- [potatoes](#)
- [organic](#)
- [exotics](#)
- [processed](#)
- [company news](#)
- [food safety](#)
- [nuts](#)
- [logistics](#)
- [packing](#)
- [machinery](#)
- [management](#)
- [retail](#)
- [agenda](#)
- [miscellaneous](#)
- [economy](#)
- [introductions](#)
- [innovations](#)
- [North America](#)
- [Europe](#)
- [Asia](#)
- [Oceania](#)
- [Central America](#)
- [South America](#)
- [Africa](#)
- [World](#)

Democratic majority boosts outlook for controversial bill

US: United Fresh moves to mobilize grassroots involvement on card check

The United Fresh Produce Association has firmly reiterated its opposition to passage of the Employee Free Choice Act and looks to bolster member involvement in the fight against this volatile bill in the weeks and months to come.



As part of a coordinated effort against the legislation, United is mobilizing its Card Check Grassroots network as well as encouraging industry members to attend September's Washington Public Policy Conference.

"Our Grassroots Network members are up in arms, ready to do what it takes to defeat this bill, but unless we have the united voice of the industry, our prospects for victory are cloudy at best," said United Vice President of Government Relations and Legislative Affairs Kam Quarles. "During the Washington Public Policy Conference this Fall, members of our industry will meet face-to-face with more than 140 members of Congress. The WPPC provides an all-important foot in the door and allows our members to communicate their concerns about a bill that would certainly harm our industry."

During a spring aflutter with legislative activity, congressional Democrats have increased their numbers and stand poised to push this potentially damaging legislation from bill to law.

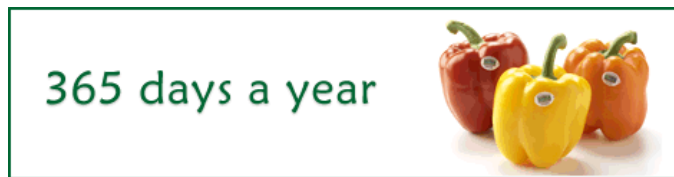
"All of our stakeholders have a vested interest in the outcome of the debate over the EFCA," said Quarles. "From the smallest family farms to the largest agricultural processors, the voices of the produce industry must be heard in order to derail what could be an extremely detrimental policy decision."

"Passage of the Employee Free Choice Act will eliminate the secret ballot, limiting employees' ability to fairly choose union representation while at the same time impose mandatory contracts on employers through binding arbitration," said Quarles. "The bill would also sanction the efforts of employers against union organizing while giving union organizers a free pass."

"Clearly this legislation is intended to upset the nearly eight-decade-old balance of power between employers and organized labor. Our current economic downturn is not an excuse to impose sweeping revisions to this law and significantly degrade our competitiveness."

Quarles encourages members and interested parties to capitalize on the opportunities presented at WPPC by contacting United Fresh Political Affairs Manager Angela Bezon at 202-303-3400 extension 416.

Publication date: 7/10/2009



- respond to this article
- email this article
- print

Receive the daily newsletter in your email for free | [Click here](#)

Other news in this sector:

- 7/21/2009 NZ: Zespri says all its kiwifruit picked and packed
- 7/21/2009 AU: Growcom takes Opposition Leader on farm to discuss horticulture's issues first hand
- 7/21/2009 Philippines: San Miguel 'interested' in Dole Food
- 7/21/2009 Fruit Futur A.I.E. joins the club Modi Europa S.p.A
- 7/21/2009 US: The Diamond State Port Corp. welcomes two new board members
- 7/21/2009 US: California Dates and Bard Valley Medjool Growers partner in new date nutrition research
- 7/21/2009 Belgium: Biobest Green Lab biological pollination and pest control
- 7/21/2009 US: Coastline and RedLine solutions announce PTI Pilot
- 7/21/2009 Fresh Del Monte Produce refinance credit facility

Announcements

Click here to receive this news directly in your inbox

Job offers

[more »](#)

- Production Manager, Kenya
- Farm Manager – Banana plantation, Mozambique
- Rose Grower/ Assistant Farm Manager - Ethiopia
- Rose Grower/ Assistant Farm Manager Kenya
- Agronomist (UK)
- Technical Compliance Officer (UK)
- Commercial Manager (UK)
- Nursery Manager - Banana plantation - Mozambique
- Adviser Greenhouse Crops - Oceania
- Assistant grower

Specials

- Machinery & Packaging
- Summer Fruit
- Greenhouse Vegetables
- Soft Fruit
- Top fruit SH
- Organics
- Exotics
- Fruit Logistica
- Citrus
- Top fruit NH

Recent comments

[more »](#)

- Pakistan: 60% mango export target achieved (1)
- Kenya starts greenhouse tomato farming (105)
- Seminis Helps Kenyan Farmers Invest in Greenhouse Tomato Production (78)
- Uganda: Earning millions from growing mushrooms (1)
- Pakistan: Agriculture scientist urged to develop high quality citrus fruits (3)
- Tabuk Agriculture Company, Saudi Arabia, celebrates its silver jubilee (17)
- Fiji: Ginger export going well (4)
- Holland: Greenery grapes from the Food Chain Partnership-project at Plus (1)
- US: Citrus update (1)
- Global warming means continental crops could take root in Britain by 2030 (1)

Top 5 - yesterday

- France: MAF Roda Agrobotic CHERRYWAY II sizer proves its success and reliability
- Holland: Greenery grapes from the Food Chain Partnership-project at Plus
- Potato tops poll to be UK's national veg
- FreshPlaza is looking for companies who have connections with China
- NZ: New-style kiwifruit peels like a banana

Top 5 - last week

No more fiddling when peeling a banana
 "According to us this is the first hothouse in the world which is energy neutral"
 Poland: Citronex builds the largest banana ripening center in Europe
 Saudi firm to invest \$3bn in Turkish agriculture sector
 US: Purshade reduces sunburn and improves grade, driving higher value for apple growers worldwide

Top 5 - last month

US (UT): Cherry crop not so sweet
 US: California Strawberry Commission hires new marketing manager
 K + N not buying Damco, says Maersk
 US Biofuels gains greenhouses for green fuel production
 Ecuador has the most expensive banana in the region

Remaining news

[more »](#)

Governor Announces Deal to Balance Budget - Washington Post
 Obama says US healthcare bills need more work - Reuters
 Asia to Experience Lengthy Eclipse Wednesday - Voice of America
 Mumbai gunman describes indoctrination in Pakistan - The Associated Press
 Indonesia president guarantees security after blasts - Reuters
 Militants Attack Afghan Cities, 5 Officers Killed - Voice of America
 Blasts kill 7 in Baghdad - CNN
 10 Apollo-era technologies used today - Computerworld
 Clinton Arrives in Thailand for ASEAN Security Conference - Voice of America

Source: *Google News*

Economic news

[more »](#)

Caterpillar Profit Exceeds Estimates; Shares Rise - Bloomberg
 CURRENCIES: Dollar Gets Small Boost From Bernanke Comments - CNNMoney.com
 Southwest 2Q Profit Plunges 83% On Hedging But EPS In Line - Wall Street Journal
 Peabody Energy 2Q Profit Falls 66%, Misses Estimates - Wall Street Journal
 Lockheed Second-Quarter Earnings Drop 17% on Pension Costs - Bloomberg
 Merck reports lower quarterly profit - MarketWatch
 Lexmark International's 2Q profit falls 80 percent - Forbes

Source: *Google News*

Exchange rates

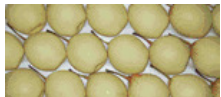
[more »](#)

USD: 1.4223
 JPY: 134.10
 GBP: 0.86530
 AUD: 1.7438
 BRL: 2.7010
 CAD: 1.5689
 CNY: 9.7153
 NZD: 2.1647
 ZAR: 11.1587

Euro foreign exchange reference rates

Source: *ECB*





**Cool warehousing at
the port of Rotterdam**
Call: +31 10 478 00 75



**Why Glenn Beck Hates
EFCA**

Amazing video - union
organizers "spill the
beans" about the EFCA
www.EFCAexposed.com

CEO Paid \$92.3 Million

While Bally's and
Caesars workers see
hours and health benefits
Cut
www.FairDealForACDealers.org

The Burke Group

Labor Relations/
Management Consultants
www.tbglabor.com

**Hefty® Fresh Extend™
Bags**

Produce Storage Bags
Help Keep Fruits and
Veggies Fresh
HeftyBrands.pactiv.com

Fresh Food Traceability

Increase produce and
product safety Enhance
customer experience