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United Fresh reiterates opposition to card check bill

Published on 07/08/2009 11:50am By Bob Luder
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With Congress having recently increased its Democratic Party representation, the United Fresh Produce Association reiterated its opposition to the Employee Free Choice Act, which eliminates secret balloting when voting on union representation.

According to a news release from United Fresh, the association wants to bolster its member involvement in the fight against the bill by mobilizing its Card Check Grassroots network and encourage members to attend United Fresh's Washington Public Policy Conference Sept. 9-11.

"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," Kam Quarles, vice president of government relations and legislative affairs at United Fresh, said in the release.

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

Tags: labor, legislation, United Fresh

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A standing-room-only crowd of 800-plus farmworkers, growers and environmentalists squeezed into an auditorium on the California State University-Fresno campus June 28 to hear how the Obama administration plans to address the state's ongoing water woes. Led by Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar, the delegation of federal officials unveiled plans for short-term and long-term efforts to resolve the California water problems.



Then, the latest chapter of California's ongoing water drama unfolded in a rally July 1 at Fresno City Hall. The rally, headlined by actor-comedian Paul Rodriguez, who has some fruit acreage and is president of the Latino Water Coalition, attracted a crowd estimated at 2,000. It included farm workers, growers and government





officials.

Read the full articles by Don Schrack: [Town hall meeting pleases few](#), [Water rally in Fresno](#)

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