

MEMORANDUM

TO: Members of the House Labor Committee

FROM: Wendy Block, Senior Vice President of Business Advocacy & Member Engagement

SUBJECT: MI Chamber Opposes Repeal of Right to Work (HB 4005)

DATE: March 8, 2023

This memorandum is to voice the Michigan Chamber of Commerce's **opposition** to legislation to repeal Michigan's landmark Right to Work law (HB 4005).

Right to Work ensures no individual can be forced to join a labor union as an employment condition. Right to Work is about freedom and personal choice. It's about the freedom of employees to decide whether to pay dues or other equivalent fees to labor unions as a condition of employment, even in workplaces covered by union contracts. It gives people a personal choice in how to spend their hard-earned wages.

Today, 28 states have Right to Work laws. Being a Right to Work state makes Michigan more competitive nationally and especially with neighboring states. It helps Michigan compete for desperately needed economic development projects and new jobs — and is a tool to keep companies headquartered in Michigan. If a company is choosing between a site in a Right to Work state and another in a state without a law in place, Right to Work can positively influence the decision.

A February 2023 poll of Michigan voters strongly support our Right to Work law. The SurveyUSA poll says 74% of Michigan registered voters opposed a repeal—even in union households. Of those opposed, 83% say they are Republicans, 67% Democrats, and 76% independents. (Source: https://www.thecentersquare.com/michigan/poll-michiganders-overwhelmingly-oppose-repealing-right-to-work/article-b8f56352-abe2-11ed-8cc5-637e41f2d74e.html)

Repealing Right to Work is bad for workers, it's bad for businesses and it's bad for Michigan's economic competitiveness. We urge you to vote "NO" on HB 4005.

Please contact me with any questions at wblock@michamber.com.