

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!

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## 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).

