



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF PROFESSIONAL & TECHNICAL ENGINEERS AFL-CIO & CLC

501 3rd Street, NW, Suite 701, Washington, DC 20001
202-239-4880 • FAX 202-239-4881 • www.ifpte.org

GREGORY J. JUNEMANN
President

PAUL SHEARON
Secretary-Treasurer

AREA VICE PRESIDENTS

Charlie Trembley
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
NORTHEASTERN

Dean Coate
WESTERN

Joel Funfar
SPEEA

Gay Henson
EASTERN FEDERAL

Misty Hughes-Newman
CANADIAN

Donna Lehane
SPEEA

John Mader
WESTERN

Sean P. McBride
ATLANTIC

Gerald Newsome
ATLANTIC

Michael Rudolf
MIDWESTERN

Ryan Rule
SPEEA

Dr. Leland S. Stone
WESTERN FEDERAL

Scott Travers
CANADIAN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Thursday, November 2, 2017
Contact: Matt Biggs
(202) 239-4880

IFPTE Statement on Senate Democrats ‘Better Deal’ Proposal for Collective Bargaining, Labor Law Reform

Washington, DC – The International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers’ (IFPTE) Executive Officers provided the following comments in response to yesterday’s unveiling of “A Better Deal” on Collective Bargaining.

IFPTE President Gregory Junemann:

“IFPTE applauds Senate Democrats for releasing a comprehensive blueprint for this Congress, and more likely, a future Congress, that outlines many of the reforms needed to bring true freedom and protection back to workers who decide to exercise their constitutional right to form a union. It is certainly no secret to any of us in the Labor Movement that the National Labor Relations Act provides anti-union employers the ability to intimidate and even fire workers who wish to form a union with little to no ramifications. The recommendations provided in this plan will go a long way in correcting this, and IFPTE applauds Senators Schumer and Murray for championing this proposal.”

IFPTE Secretary-Treasurer Paul Shearon:

“As an organizer, I have seen first-hand where workers get fired, harassed and threatened by their employers just for considering whether to unionize. For far too long in the United States, this abhorrent employer behavior has been emboldened because our outdated laws provide no remedy for those workers who undertake a unionizing drive in their workplaces. Sadly, this is even becoming more of a trend in the public and federal sectors, where, regardless of what political party is in control, assaults on workers during an organizing drive is allowed to continue. IFPTE is pleased that Senators Schumer and Murray have brought this proposal forward and urge them to not allow this to be just a flavor of the month idea, but one that sustains into a future Congress where these ideas can become bills, and ultimately become law.”

Among other proposals, The Better Deal Proposal on Collective Bargaining aims to:

- Create a mandatory mediation and arbitration process to ensure corporations and newly formed unions reach a first contract.
- Strengthen penalties on predatory corporations that violate workers’ rights, and combat misclassification of workers as supervisors and independent contractors.
- Strengthen workers’ right to strike for basic workplace improvements, including higher wages and better working conditions.
- Ban state laws that undermine worker freedoms to join together and negotiate.
- Provide millions of public employees with the freedom to join a union and collectively bargain with their employers.
- Streamline the National Labor Relation Board’s (NLRB) procedures to secure worker freedoms and effectively prevent violations.
- Protect the integrity of union elections against coercive captive audience meetings

Read the full white-paper and press release here.