



Florida AFL-CIO • United Labor Lobby Legislative Alert!

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It's Back!!!!

Union Busting CSX Deal Returns for Special Session SOME WANT TO IGNORE FLORIDA'S WORKERS Urgent Action Needed Now!

After two years of well deserved defeats in the Florida Senate, the backers of the horribly flawed CSX/SunRail commuter rail project have the used the promise of *potential* federal stimulus dollars to bring this zombie back from the dead once again...this time with the support of many Democrats!

Under this legislation:

- Union members who currently perform vital safety signal construction/operation and maintenance-of-way operations will all find their jobs abolished and their federal railroad worker protections, including their railroad pensions, collective bargaining rights and other benefits eliminated.
- The legislation specifically enables FDOT to continue buying piece-by-piece Florida's railroad system and then using its ownership to replace union railroad workers with cheaper and less qualified contract labor.
- Long standing safety protections for the riding public including mandatory drug testing of rail workers and protections for those workers that enable them to bring safety concerns to management and safety authorities without fear of reprisals will no longer exist on large segments of Florida's rail system putting the safety of the riding public at risk.
- Legislators claim they have found a "surplus" in the Department of Transportation to help pay for this. Why then have your taxes and fees for driver's licenses, car registrations and other areas doubled this year? If there is a surplus shouldn't those huge increases be rebated to struggling working families instead of given up for this CSX deal? Isn't Florida running a deficit over \$2 billion...how can there be a surplus?
- Under this bill, responsible contractors who provide living wages, health care and retirement benefits will not be able to compete for the construction work which will go to unscrupulous contractors who use less skilled, lower wage workers with no benefits. Are these the type of jobs we really need to bring Florida's economy back?
- All of the taxpayer funded "extras" for the CSX company and the unfair plan to place too much liability for accidents CSX could cause on taxpayers are still in the legislation, costing us millions when our teachers, firefighters and public service workers are dealing with forced layoffs and fewer resources to do their work.

The AFL-CIO is in favor of commuter rail and high speed rail projects that make sense and will stimulate our struggling economy. Any project that enables statewide union-

busting for all railroad union jobs in Florida, deprives workers of their federal retirement, health care, collective bargaining rights and dignity and needlessly robs the state budget of critical funds **just does not make sense.**

This fight will happen in the Florida Senate. We need all members to immediately contact their Senator and tell them

“NO TO SUNRAIL”

PHONE CALLS ARE BEST

CLICK TO FIND YOUR SENATOR'S PHONE NUMBER

<http://www.flsenate.gov/Legislators/index.cfm?Mode=Member%20Pages&Submenu=1&Tab=legislators&CFID=68993129&CFTOKEN=73049279>