

THE "FREEDOM" FOUNDATION (AKA OPT OUT TODAY): OPPOSING AN AGENDA FOR WORKING FAMILIES



The so-called "Freedom" Foundation/Opt Out Today claims to care about working families but our research has revealed their true agenda. Funded by out-of-state billionaires, they are on a purely partisan mission to destroy the rights of working families. To this point, their campaign has been a miserable failure, but they have a seemingly endless supply of money. Here's where the "Freedom" Foundation stands on the issues:

AGAINST PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

In a report they co-wrote, "State Budget Reform Toolkit," they called for cutting state employee pensions, raising the retirement age, raising health insurance costs, and delaying raises.

AGAINST RETIREMENT SECURITY

The "Freedom" Foundation joined a coalition in Oregon that worked to cut the "retirement, disability and health insurance fund" of public workers. They compared retirement security for working families to the Ponzi scheme orchestrated by Bernie Madoff.

AGAINST RAISING THE MINIMUM WAGE

The "Freedom" Foundation has repeatedly opposed increases in the minimum wage and has said that a \$15 minimum wage is "an idea so stupid only liberals can believe it."

AGAINST PUBLIC EDUCATION

The "Freedom" Foundation has fought for cuts to public schools and educator salaries. They have argued against increasing education funding, calling it unimportant and irrelevant to student outcomes.

AGAINST PAID SICK LEAVE

The "Freedom" Foundation wants to eliminate paid sick leave and has even authored a national report opposing paid sick leave for all workers.

AGAINST WORKERS' RIGHT TO ORGANIZE

The "Freedom" Foundation is a long-time advocate of so-called Right to Work Laws. They have sponsored at least five local initiatives and advocated for it at a state level. These laws have proven to lead to lower wages, the loss of prevailing wage and less safe working conditions.