THE BIG MONEY BEHIND THE 'FREEDOM FOUNDATION’S FAILED ATTACKS ON WORKERS

Out-of-state billionaires are spending millions of dollars on front groups in the Pacific Northwest to try to destroy unions so they can enact an extreme, right wing agenda.

Their goal is to slash wages, healthcare, and pensions while cutting education funding and eroding LGBTQ rights. Their extreme, hateful and divisive agenda has been a failure to this point - but their pockets are deep.

STATE POLICY NETWORK (SPN)

A nationwide web of dark money front groups with an $83 million war chest and the self proclaimed goal of defunding and defanging unions, they operate think tanks in 49 states that receive funding from national foundations to push an extreme agenda often not supported by voters in those states.

THE SPN HAS SEVERAL MEMBER GROUPS IN THE NORTHWEST, INCLUDING:

THE 'FREEDOM FOUNDATION'

An anti-worker organization that advocates against minimum wage increases, paid sick leave, and collective bargaining rights.

Multiple complaints against them have been filed with federal and state authorities. Currently running an unsuccessful multi-million dollar campaign to badger workers about their union membership.

WHO FUNDS THE 'FREEDOM FOUNDATION'?

THE BRADLEY FOUNDATION

Wisconsin-based right wing donor organization with a $900 million war chest. Has given the 'Freedom' Foundation over $1.5 million. Also funded the work of Frank Gaffney, an anti-Muslim bigot who played a key role in drafting Trump's Muslim Ban, and the fellowship of Charles Murray, who uses racist pseudoscience to argue that minority communities, women, and the poor are genetically inferior.

THE MURDOCK TRUST

Uses their nearly $1 billion war chest to give millions to anti-LGBTQ, anti-choice, and anti-worker groups including The Alliance Defending Freedom, a hate group that backed North Carolina's anti-transgender “bathroom bill,” crisis pregnancy centers, and gay conversion therapy providers. Regularly funds Corban University, a private college that promotes gay conversion therapy while receiving federal aid.

DONORS TRUST AND DONORS CAPITAL FUND

Enable anonymous donors to give untold amounts of money to right-wing causes across the country. Has a combined total of over $211 million at their disposal. Billionaires like the Koch brothers have use Donors Trust and Donors Capital Fund to funnel their millions to groups promoting climate change denial, Islamaphobia, and attacks on unions.

SARAH SCAIFE FOUNDATION

Based in Pennsylvania, the Sarah Scaife Foundation uses their nearly $75 million war chest to give to anti-immigrant and white supremacist organizations including the Center for Immigration Studies, a known hate group whose leadership has ties to white nationalism and racist groups. Has also given to Frank Gaffney’s notoriously Islamaphobic Center for Security Policy.

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