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January 26, 2015

Governor Scott Walker  
Office of the Governor of Wisconsin  
115 East Capitol  
Madison, WI 53702

Dear Governor Walker,

I write today to ask that you clarify whether you would veto any "Right to Work" (RTW) legislation presented to you. You have said that RTW legislation is a "distraction from the work that we're trying to do," but Wisconsinites need more from you than just generalities. During the State of the State, I was hoping to hear you set the record straight with Wisconsin families and make it clear that you will veto any damaging "Right to Work" legislation that is sent to you.

An Economic Policy Institute report found that "RTW laws lower wages for union and non-union workers by an average of \$1,500 a year and decrease the likelihood employees will get health insurance or pensions through their jobs. By lowering compensation, they have the indirect effect of undermining consumer spending, which threatens economic growth. For every \$1 million in wage cuts to workers, \$850,000 less is spent in the economy, which translates into a loss of six jobs."

At this time of economic recovery in Wisconsin, we cannot afford to implement short sighted and partisan legislation that would lower wages and have broad reaching negative economic impacts in the state. Wisconsin has long been a leader in good paying manufacturing jobs. Why would you want to sign legislation that would begin a race to the bottom that only hurts Wisconsin families?

"Right to Work" is more than a distraction: it would be a direct attack on Wisconsin's working families. I urge you to work with the state legislature to focus on creating jobs and strengthening Wisconsin's economy instead of pursuing a divisive agenda that puts working families further behind.

Sincerely,



Ron Kind  
Member of Congress

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