

My Two Cent's Worth

No more unions?

Yes, that's the fear running rampant as the decision of the *Mark Janus vs AFSCME* is expected this June. Oral arguments were heard in late February after final briefs were filed earlier that month.

Conservative Republicans are already partying, sure that President Trump's appointment and confirmation of Neil Gorsuch will be the swing vote needed to destroy unions over forced, or "fair share" union dues.

So stupid. You would think that the simple answer is to pay the fair share and benefit from the collective bargaining process, or "cut" the lone worker who is only a child support specialist, a non-salaried state employee.

He and a few like him are really no big deal. It shouldn't affect any union to ignore this limited job specialty. But the Right-to-Work Legal Defense foundation and the Liberty Justice Center have jumped on board claiming "forced dues" violates the First Amendment rights, or free speech. And now the union is forced to fight over something that is, in my opinion, meaningless.

I think this is a real stretch, but I have seen courts argue the merits of a case by simple word placement, such as verbiages of "a," "and," "other," and similar type sentence structure that can change the meaning of a sentence or paragraph. So with this sort of free speech interpretation its anyone's guess.

It's not surprising that Republicans are overjoyed with having a potential swing vote conservative judge on this one.

But will SCOTUS really impact 5.5 million workers in 22 states without right-to-work laws and rule against labor?

You betcha!

Stay tuned.

Vita é bella.