

The following resolution [ICSOM Governing Board] regarding national “Right-to-Work” legislation was adopted:

Whereas, On February 1, 2017, Representative Steve King (R-IA) introduced H.R. 785, the “National Right-to-Work Act,” in the United States House of Representatives, and on March 7, 2017, Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) introduced similar legislation, S. 545, in the United States Senate; and

Whereas, Certain provisions of the Taft-Hartley Act of 1947 allow states to adopt anti-labor, so-called “right-to-work” laws; and

Whereas, Such “right-to-work” laws have undermined unions for 70 years by allowing individuals who work under collectively bargained agreements to “free ride” by enjoying virtually all the benefits of union representation without being required to join or financially support their unions; and

Whereas, “Right-to-work” laws have never had anything to do with workers’ “rights,” but instead seek to benefit employers at the expense of workers’ ability to obtain improvements in the terms and conditions of their employment; and

Whereas, “Right-to-work” laws can compromise our locals’ abilities to support our member orchestras; and

Whereas, A national “right-to-work” law as proposed in H.R. 785 and S. 545 will cause irreparable harm to unions in the United States and to the rights of workers generally, including musicians; therefore, be it

Resolved, That Delegates and Officers to the 2017 ICSOM Conference declare their opposition to H.R. 785 and S. 545; and, be it further

Resolved, That ICSOM supports the American Federation of Musicians of the United States and Canada in its efforts to lobby against H.R. 785 and S. 545.