



From the Editor

*Another great article from The Rooms Chronicle® the #1 journal for hotel rooms management! ***Important notice: This article may not be reproduced without permission of the publisher or the author.*** College of Hospitality and Tourism Management, Niagara University, P.O. Box 2036, Niagara University, NY 14109-2036. Phone: 866-Read TRC. E-mail: editor@roomschronicle.com*

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Generally, it has been our policy at *The Rooms Chronicle* to solely focus on operational issues and concerns that affect hoteliers at the property-level. We strive to remain neutral on political matters and really only present those concerns if they will adversely or positively impact individual hotels and owners and not just the collective lodging industry. But in this issue we must speak up.

For the lead article for this issue we have chosen to present to you information regarding the Employee Free Choice Act. As Don Lee clearly explains, this piece of legislation that is pending in Congress will have a devastating impact on hotels in the United States. As if economic times were not difficult enough for hotels, the successful passage of this legislation would likely result in the loss of 600,000 jobs in 2010 in the United States. Hotels will be forced into mandatory arbitration provisions that would have the government impose workplace conditions without giving employees an opportunity to approve those conditions or employers the ability to appeal them, thus depriving employers and employees of the right to approve their own work contracts. More significantly, employees will not be able to vote privately for unionization and many undoubtedly will be coerced against their will to support representation or an organization they may not personally want.

Plain and simple, this is BAD LEGISLATION. I encourage every hotelier to realize the EFCA for what it is: An attempt to benefit unions and unionized workers that will take most control away from those who invest, own, and manage hotels. This will assuredly hurt the lodging industry and all involved for the long-term if we allow it to pass.



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