



STAT facts

HEALTH CARE WORKERS COUNCIL OF THE UNITED STEELWORKERS

A publication of the United Steelworkers

Healthcare Leaders Worry Supreme Court Case on Union Fees Could Hurt Workplace Harmony and Quality of Care

The Supreme Court began hearing testimony this week in a case that could potentially devastate the American labor movement, and the health care sector could be one of the first to feel the effects, writes Harris Meyer for Modern Healthcare.

The case, *Janus v. AFSCME*, is the culmination of an intense conservative effort, funded by the billionaire Koch brothers, to wipe out public sector unions.

If the court rules as expected, workers will be able to opt out of paying fair share fees to their unions, but unions will be forced to continue representing them anyway: bargaining on their behalf,

filing grievances, taking up arbitration, and all other benefits of union membership.

Under current regulations, workers can opt out of paying union dues that go towards political activities but still must pay a fee to cover the costs of representation.

Even some health care administrators are concerned, since unions do much more than bargain on behalf of health care workers, including advocating for more funding for their agencies, protecting Medicare and Medicaid and promoting better patient care.

To read the full article, click [here](#).

Dems Seek Reversal of Nursing Home Regulatory Rollback

A group of Democratic senators led by Richard Blumenthal (Connecticut) and Amy Klobuchar (Minnesota) earlier this month wrote a letter urging the Trump administration to reverse its rollback of regulations on nursing homes, writes Nathaniel Weixel for The Hill.

A series of actions by the Centers for Medicare

and Medicaid Services (CMS) has made it harder for regulators to punish nursing homes that do not meet quality and safety standards, including ensuring there is adequate staff on site, providing behavioral health services or using psychotropic medications correctly.

To read the full article, click [here](#).

Tell Us Your Stories!

Has your local done something outstanding? Have you had a great solidarity action? Done something huge to help your community? Made significant connections with other labor groups? Is your Women of Steel or Next Gen committee making waves?

Tell us about it!

Contact Jess Kamm Broomell at jkamm@usw.org or at 412-562-2446.



Have internet access?

Love staying up to date on all the latest and greatest from the USW and beyond? Join the [USW Healthcare Workers on Facebook!](#)