Dear Representatives:

The National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the largest manufacturing association in the United States representing manufacturers in every industrial sector and in all 50 states, urges you to support S.J. Res. 8, a joint resolution disapproving the National Labor Relations Board’s (NLRB) rule regarding representation election procedures.

On December 15, 2014, the NLRB finalized a new rule that would overhaul 75 years of union election procedures, significantly narrowing the time that employers and employees can communicate in the days leading up to a representation election.

The new rule poses problems for both employers and employees. It places a considerable burden on employers, particularly for small and medium-sized manufacturers who may lack the legal expertise to navigate complex labor laws. By drastically limiting the time workers and employers can discuss pending union elections, employees may be less likely to make fully informed decisions about whether to join a union.

Moreover, the rule strips employers of their right to address specific disputes prior to an election. For example, any disagreements over the bargaining unit (e.g., which employees are eligible to vote) would not occur until after elections have been conducted.

The NAM’s Key Vote Advisory Committee has indicated that votes on S.J. Res. 8, including procedural motions, may be considered for designation as Key Manufacturing Votes in the 114th Congress.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Aric Newhouse