Microsoft Outlook

From: Cleeland, Nancy
Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2011 4:57 PM
To: Solomon, Lafe E.; Kearney, Barry J.
Subject: FW: (BN) U.S. Labor Board Urged by States to Drop Boeing

Here's the story we're trying to get a comment into.

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-----Original Message-----
From: STEPHANIE ARMOUR, BLOOMBERG/ NEWSROOM: [mailto:sarmour@bloomberg.net]
Sent: Thursday, April 28, 2011 4:46 PM
To: Cleeland, Nancy
Subject: (BN) U.S. Labor Board Urged by States to Drop Boeing

Here it is. But as I said, can still update with NLRB comments. They just give me such a short time to get something out. Don't have boeing comments or machinists yet either, but have messages out.

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U.S. Labor Board Urged by States to Drop Boeing Complaint (1)
2011-04-28 20:20:18.837 GMT

(Updates with comments from letter in third paragraph.)

By Stephanie Armour

April 28 (Bloomberg) -- The National Labor Relations Board should “withdraw immediately” a complaint against Boeing Co.
that alleged the company retaliated against union employees, attorneys general in nine states said in a letter.

The board’s action, citing Boeing’s decision to open a 787 aircraft assembly line in South Carolina, is an “assault” on the ability of the states to create jobs, according to the letter released today.

“Our states are trying to emerge from one of the worst economic collapses since the Depression,” South Carolina Attorney General Alan Wilson wrote in the letter signed by eight colleagues. “Your complaint further impairs an economic recovery.”

The board last week said Boeing chose South Carolina, a state that bans labor agreements that require workers to join a union, over keeping the work in Washington state because it was “motivated by a desire to retaliate for past strike and chill future strike activity.” Boeing executives had said they were concerned about strikes by employees, according to the complaint.

Wilson and the attorneys general from Virginia, Nebraska, Texas, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Oklahoma and Arizona urged the board to “cease this attack on our right to work, our states’
economies, and our jobs.”

The board’s complaint said Boeing should be forced to open a Washington state assembly line after violating workers’ rights by building the South Carolina assembly line. The

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company, the world's biggest aerospace company, decided in 2009 to build the new assembly line.

'Very Board Concern'

The state's request illustrates "very broad concern across the country regarding the NLRB's complaint," said Michael Eastman, executive director of labor law policy at the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, in an e-mail.

Boeing's choice of South Carolina marked its first departure from the Puget Sound hub where it has built all its commercial jets. Relations with the Machinists union have been strained by four strikes since 1989, including the most recent, two-month walkout at the end of 2008.

A hearing on the labor board's recommendation, which was issued by its acting general counsel, was scheduled for June 14 before an administrative law judge in Seattle.

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--Editors: Steve Geimann, John Lear

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