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Michigan Embracing Workplace Freedom on 2nd Anniversary of Freedom to Work

LANSING, MI, March 27, 2015 –The Michigan Freedom Fund today congratulated workers across the state, as Michigan prepares tomorrow to commemorate the 2nd anniversary of becoming the nation’s 24th Freedom to Work state.

“Two years ago tomorrow, Michigan workers earned the freedom to make the economic choices that work best for themselves and their families when it comes to union membership,” said Freedom Fund President Greg McNeilly. “Thousands of Michigan workers have exercised their rights over the last two years, opting out of their unions and keeping dues money in their families’ bank accounts, instead of their union bosses’.

“The success of Freedom to Work these last two years proves just how much good can happen when lawmakers stand up, take on the special interests, and fight the tough fights to put Michigan workers first. They should follow their own lead and pursue an agenda that removes government barriers to innovation and embraces free market solutions.”

According to recent data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, union membership in Michigan dropped significantly in 2014, the first full year workers had the freedom to work. The percentage of Michigan workers belonging to a union dropped from 16.3 percent in 2013 to 14.5 percent in 2014, the 3rd largest drop in any state in the nation.

Union membership nationally fell only .2 percent in 2014.

Michigan’s unemployment rate has plummeted nearly 3 points since implementation of Freedom to Work, from 8.8 in March 2013 to 5.9 in February 2015, reaching a 13 year low.

Michigan Freedom Fund is a nonprofit organization run by Michiganders for Michiganders, working to advance, promote, and protect Michigan workers’ Constitutional rights. For more information on the Freedom Agenda, please visit www.MichiganFreedomFund.com/issues.

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