

Who Is Opt Out Today?

Opt Out Today is a **deceptive marketing campaign** from the **Freedom Foundation**, a special interest group funded by the Koch Brothers that does not have your best interest in mind. We know their real agenda because they say it when they think we're not listening.

- **Steal your job:** Opt Out Today signed on to a state "reform" plan that called for layoffs, hiring freezes, and privatizing public jobs.
- **Cut your pension:** They joined a coalition that lobbied to slash public employee retirement by 40%.

They tried to justify these extreme positions in the Bend Bulletin when they wrote about "protecting" taxpayers from "public employees' handsome salaries and lavish benefits." Their special interest donors don't care about you.

Benefits of Union Membership

- **\$4,701 per year.** That's how much more union members earn, on average, compared to nonunion workers in Oregon.
- **\$421.51 per month.** That's the extra money in your pocket each month (compared with the national average) thanks to the healthcare benefits negotiated in our contract.
- **\$431 per month.** That's the extra money in your retirement account each month (compared with the national average) thanks to our contract.
- In 2019, we bargained the best contract in a decade, including 10 to 15 percent wage increases over two years. **This was only possible because SEIU members chose to remain members of their union.**



"Because we're in a union, we can bargain from a position of strength, and that means better wages and benefits for us and our families."

Kim Cole , SEIU 503 member

Stronger Together, when it matters.

A crisis like COVID-19 can show you who has your back. Just take a look at what SEIU 503 members did for themselves through their union, versus what the Freedom Foundation did during coronavirus.

SEIU 503 Members	Freedom Foundation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Won expanded leave for workers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Politicized the pandemic by trying to convince politicians to destroy unions.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Expanded telework options for State employees. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Created a hardship fund that's given almost \$200,000 to members who have experienced financial hardship. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? ? ? ? ? ?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Lobbied Congress to include worker protections in both federal relief bills. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? ? ? ? ?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Launched GetHelpCOVIDoregon.org to help every Oregonian navigate state benefits. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ? ? ?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Provided workers with regularly updated info and resources. 	<p>That's pretty much all they did.</p>

Before COVID-19, the Freedom Foundation/Opt Out Today signed on to a state budget "reform" plan that included **cuts to employee healthcare plans, raising the cost of healthcare plans and laying off employees** so they could be replaced by less expensive new hires.

Their Director of Labor Policy Maxford Nelson went as far as to declare that life-saving **paid sick leave policies are a cure "worse than the disease."**