

## **Absence of Compromise**

We were saddened to read in our local paper state Rep. Kristina Roegner's aggressive stand to preserve Senate Bill 5 by voting in favor of ballot Issue 2. At first, her reasons seem so reasonable, so seductive. But the devil is in the details.

Instead of finding a way to sustain workers' rights with compromise, the method is to throw the baby out with the bath water. While some aspects of the bill are reasonable and we can all agree that some changes are needed, it goes too far. Blaming unions for our financial woes is a thinly veiled ploy that takes advantage of our economic downturn in order to set an extreme ideology into law.

We are not union and never have been, but we understand what is at stake. This issue is not just about the hundreds of thousands of current public employees; it will affect future generations and will affect workers' rights in general.

We have been trying to see the big picture. When we closely follow passed and pending state legislation as well as extremes in administrative actions, we begin to see a picture. Ohio is lopsided in its political power base. There is not much that can stop it. It is up to voters to inform themselves on the issues and understand the impact now and into the future. S.B. 5 is extreme. We believe it should be defeated, and we ask our legislators to go back to the table for changes we can all live with. It's better that we get it right. In his recent documentary, Ken Burns says the reason America can exist in our diversity is our ability and desire to compromise so we may move forward together. We will vote against Issue 2.

**Pat and Chuck Simons**

Hudson