

# Corporate Governance Objectives of Labor Union Shareholders: Evidence from Proxy Voting

[Get access >](#)

Ashwini K. Agrawal

*The Review of Financial Studies*, Volume 25, Issue 1, January 2012, Pages 187–226, <https://doi.org/10.1093/rfs/hhr081>

**Published:** 01 January 2012

## Abstract

Labor union pension funds have become increasingly vocal in governance matters; however, their motives are subject to fierce debate. I examine the proxy votes of AFL-CIO union funds around an exogenous change in the union representation of workers across firms. AFL-CIO-affiliated shareholders become significantly less opposed to directors once the AFL-CIO labor organization no longer represents a firm's workers. Other institutional investors, including mutual funds and public pension funds, do not exhibit similar voting behavior. Union opposition is also associated with negative valuation effects. The data suggest that some investors pursue worker interests, rather than maximize shareholder value alone.

© The Author 2011. Published by Oxford University Press on behalf of The Society for Financial Studies. All rights reserved. For Permissions, please e-mail: [journals.permissions@oup.com](mailto:journals.permissions@oup.com).

**Collection:** [SFS Journals](#)

You do not currently have access to this article.

## Sign in

 [Get help with access](#)

### Personal account

- Sign in with email/username & password

### Institutional access



Sign in through your institution

- Get email alerts
- Save searches
- Purchase content
- Activate your purchase/trial code
- Add your ORCID iD

Sign in >

Register



Sign in through your institution >

[Sign in with a library card](#)

[Sign in with username/password](#)

[Recommend to your librarian](#)

### **Institutional account management**

[Sign in as administrator](#)

## Purchase

[Subscription prices and ordering for this journal](#)

[Purchasing options for books and journals across Oxford Academic](#)

## Short-term Access

To purchase short-term access, please sign in to your personal account above.

Don't already have a personal account? [Register](#)

Corporate Governance Objectives of Labor Union Shareholders: Evidence from Proxy Voting  
- 24 Hours access

EUR €53.00

GBP £44.00

USD \$58.00

## Rental



This article is also available for rental through DeepDyve.