



Policy Academy Curriculum

Fighting for Worker Freedom

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In this Independent Women Policy Academy lesson, you'll learn about state and federal labor policies affecting flexible work opportunities in America.

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Introduction: Free the Freelancers

In this [video for PragerU](#), Patrice Onwuka, director of Independent Women’s Center for Economic Opportunity, discusses how policymakers backed by unions are working to destroy flexible work opportunities. How did freelance work suddenly become a target for extinction? What would the Californication of labor policy mean for workers nationwide? Click [HERE](#) to watch.



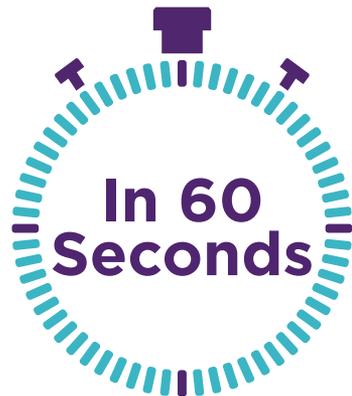


The Quick & Dirty on Threats to Freelancing

Lawmakers have little time and the public has a short attention span. How can you describe the threats to independent contracting to influential allies and potential grassroots supporters quickly? Read a brief backgrounder with key points [HERE](#).

Independent Women's Voice[®]

Independent Contracting Threats



The Fight to Remain an Independent Worker

American workers, particularly women and younger workers, are increasingly seeking out flexible work arrangements that can accommodate their time constraints or maximize work-life balance. Restrictions on independent contracting, proposed by the Biden administration, imposed serious consequences and limits to economic opportunities. Read [HERE](#) about Biden's war on freelancers and flexibility.

Economy

Biden's New Department Of Labor Regulation Wages War On Freelancers And Destroys Flexibility

This is an attack on freelancers, flexible work, working women, and worker freedom.

Patrice Onwuka | January 10, 2024



5 Things to Know about the Devastating New Independent Contractor Rule

The new restrictions will make it difficult for millions of Americans to maintain their independent status regardless of whether they prefer or need to be independent. The changes in this rule will be devastating for freelancers and self-employed people across the U.S.—especially women, who make up over half of freelancers. Click [HERE](#) to read more about it.

Jobs

5 Things To Know About The Devastating New Independent Contractor Rule

Self-employment, gig work, and freelancing will be changed for the worse.

Patrice Onwuka | February 6, 2024





Exposing the Harms and Threats from New Labor Regulations

Reclassifying “independent contractors” as “employees” is good for workers’ security, right? **Wrong.** Liya Palagashvili, a senior research fellow at the Mercatus Center at George Mason University, whose primary research interests include entrepreneurship, regulation, and the gig economy, explains how the new Department of Labor rule will impact flexible workers. Click [HERE](#) to listen or read the transcript.

Regulations

Liya Palagashvili: Are You About To Lose Your Side Job?

Beverly Hallberg & Liya Palagashvili | She Thinks Podcast | February 16, 2024

she thinks. PODCAST

featuring

Liya Palagashvili



Behind the Wheel: Women Truckers Fight for Their Independence

Read the stories of female truckers who oppose the Biden-era Labor Department rule that negatively impacts the livelihood and flexibility of independent contractors. The series, titled **“Behind the Wheel: Women Truckers Fight for Their Independence,”** features **Angela Masterson, Sheryl Myers, and Jeanette Lonergan.**





Optional Additional Resources

Policy Focus: The Threat to Independent Contracting: AB5

Read background information about how state and federal efforts to reclassify independent contractors as employees erode worker freedom.

Check out this [How to Talk About: Protecting Flexibility and Worker Freedom](#) guide from Independent Women's Voice, where you'll find fast facts and common misperceptions about independent contracting.

Additional Reading:

- Op-eds [by Independent Women Center Director Patrice Onwuka](#) and Fellows [Whitney Munro](#), [Judy Pino](#), and [Jennifer Oliver O'Connell](#)
 - Center for Economic Opportunity **DOL rule** op-eds, blogs, and commentary (click [HERE](#))
-

Read [PRO Act Stories](#) from real men and women who would lose their livelihoods if the PRO Act is passed. [Share your own story](#) as an independent contractor.

Chasing Work: Independent Contractors: Click [HERE](#) to read and watch the stories of Californian independent constructors who lost incomes, contracts, and their life's work because of AB5.

Follow these accounts on Twitter:

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Independent Women

Center for Economic Opportunity

Expanding Opportunity and Mobility for Women and Workers

The **Center for Economic Opportunity's** goal is to develop and advocate for common-sense policy solutions, grounded in data, to expand workplace choice, flexibility, freedom, and opportunity. Having good intentions is not good enough. We seek outcomes that measurably improve the lives of women and workers.

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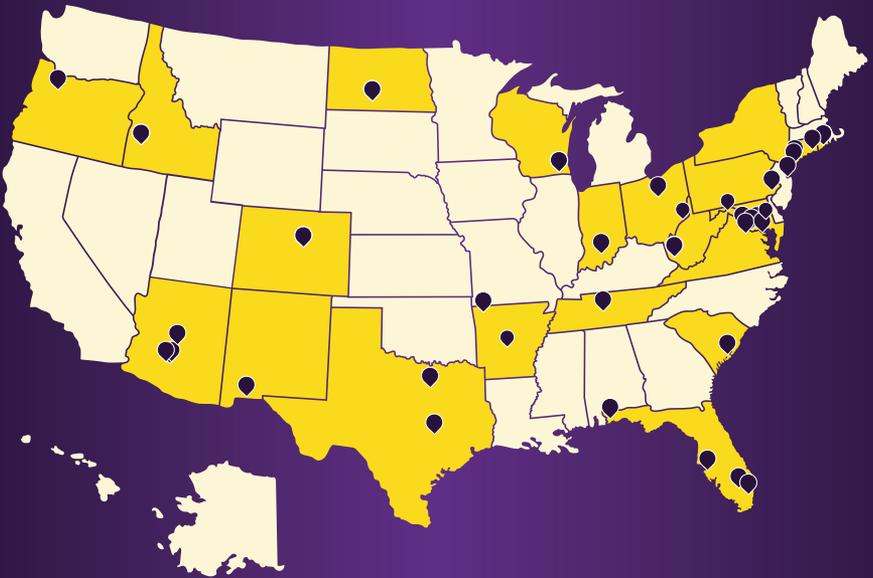


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