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**STATEMENT BY SENATOR EDWARD M. KENNEDY ON THE NEED FOR THE EMPLOYEE
CHOICE ACT**

***A NEW REPORT BY HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH ON WAL-MART DEMONSTRATES HOW
WORKERS RIGHTS ARE VIOLATED***

Washington, DC: Today, Human Rights Watch issued a new report entitled, "Discounting Rights: Wal-Mart's Violation of US Workers' Right to Freedom of Association." Senator Edward M. Kennedy issued the following statement in response:

"In this era of insecurity, American workers want and need the freedom to choose a union --- yet the vast majority never get the chance and this new report shows us why. Aggressive anti-union campaigns by Wal-Mart and countless other employers across the country are trampling on workers' rights. That's why we must pass the Employee Free Choice Act -- to stop this epidemic of employer intimidation and restore the fundamental human right to choose a union."

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