

AMERICA WORKS BEST
WHEN WE SAY . . .



PENNSYLVANIA AFL-CIO

RICHARD W. BLOOMINGDALE
President

FRANK SNYDER
Secretary-Treasurer

January 13, 2014

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

RE: **The Pennsylvania AFL-CIO Strongly OPPOSES House Bill 1507 and Any Other Similar Pieces of Legislation**

Dear Representative:

The Pennsylvania AFL-CIO, on behalf of the 800,000 tax-paying, working men and women we represent in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, urges you to OPPOSE House Bill 1507 or any similar legislation because it would significantly impair unions' ability to represent their dues and fee paying members, as well as limits the very rights that members of this general assembly have sworn to protect.

Payroll deduction and fair share fees are not forced. They are bargained for between the employer and the union and must be contractually approved by both parties. House Bill 1507 makes the negotiated payroll deduction of dues, membership fees, and political contributions by unions non-negotiable. Meanwhile thousands of other organizations will still be allowed to use the very same practice. To use an excuse such as costing the taxpayers money is disingenuous and nothing more than an attempt to play off individual's concern over government spending. The truth is, and has been shown in other states, that payroll deductions have a minimal impact financially, and if the true purpose behind this legislation was to save taxpayers money, then all other deductions would be eliminated as well.

The reality is House Bill 1507 and its proponents want nothing more than to silence unions in both the legislative and political arenas. In a society where corporations all too often possess the power to influence policy, unions provide workers a collective voice to counter the often unanswered claims. Unions ensure fairness in the workplace, good wages, and good benefits. Please vote "NO" on House Bill 1507 and any other pieces of similar legislation.

If you would like to discuss this matter further, please contact our Legislative Director, Michael Stefan, at 717-231-2842, or via email at mikestefan@paaficio.org. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Richard W. Bloomingdale, President
Frank Snyder, Secretary-Treasurer

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