

FOUNDED IN 1937

January 15, 2014

Representative Bryan Cutler 51 A East Wing PO Box 202100 Harrisburg, PA 17120-2100 WENDELL W. YOUNG, IV President MICHELE L. KESSLER Secretary-Treasurer BARBARA JOHNSON Recorder

Dear Representative Cutler:

I am writing to urge your opposition to HB 1507 and any other piece of legislation that will eliminate automatic payroll deduction of union member dues. We call these types of legislative efforts *Paycheck Deception* – an effort to silence workers and weaken the unions that represent them.

HB 1507 has the same impact as right-to-work legislation. It is strictly designed to deny public employees from exercising their workplace rights and limits the ability for unions to represent them.

A union is an example of a true democratic process. Employees have the choice on whether or not to join a union. Union members vote on their contract and elect their leadership and current federal law allows members to opt out of the political portion of union dues — despite the lies told by the special interests.

Paycheck deception laws are vicious attacks on the freedoms and rights of workers who belong to a union. Multi-billion dollar corporations and their donors support these types of laws because they force unions to spend their resources on collecting dues rather than on advocating for the working men and women in their union. This is why these laws have already been ruled unconstitutional in three states.

Those who understand payroll deduction know the cost of automatic deduction is nonexistent and actually saves money for the state. When using an automatic payroll deduction system, a number of slots are filled for deductions, including members' dues, bank deposits, United Way, and the Pennsylvania State Employee Credit Union (PSECU). This is both cost effective and saves employees and the employer money. Singling out union dues collection as unlawful for automatic payroll deduction is discriminatory towards unions.



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Just how far are the special interests willing to go to restrict union representation? This legislation could lead to the elimination of all payroll deduction, which in turn would hurt charities like United Way and business at the PSECU. These unintended consequences need to be examined.

Again, I ask you to stand up for the working families of Pennsylvania by opposing HB 1507 and any other piece of legislation similar to it.

Sincerely,

Wender W. Young, IV

President, United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 1776