



The Voice of Small Business®

PENNSYLVANIA

June 4, 2014

Honorable Daryl Metcalfe
Chairman
House State Government Committee
Room 144, Main Capitol
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Honorable Mark Cohen
Minority Chairman
House State Government Committee
Room 127, Irvis Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Representatives:

On behalf of the 15,000 small business members of the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB), I am writing to express our members' support for House Bill 1507, sponsored by state Rep. Bryan Cutler.

This legislation seeks to eliminate the practice of public employers and representative unions to negotiate clauses in collective bargaining agreements which requires the deduction of union dues or political contributions from paychecks.

NFIB members, like the majority of Pennsylvanians, have long opposed state resources being used for political purposes. Since some of the money collected is used for political or electioneering purposes we do not believe that public employers should be in the business of collecting these fees. The Cutler legislation won't impact the ability of workers to join or be represented by public sector unions. It simply takes the public employer out of the process to collect union dues or fees used for political or electioneering purposes.

It's estimated that nearly \$5 million spent on political activity was collected by the taxpayers from public sector workers – through the various government entities which they were employed. NFIB believes workers should be free to make their own decisions about the organizations and political activities to which they give their money – it's the American way. But it is not the responsibility of taxpayers to be involved in political or electioneering activity.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of the views of small business. We urge you to vote in favor of the reforms contained in House Bill 1507.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Shivers".

Kevin Shivers
Executive State Director