Tell Your Legislators

VOTE NO ON SB 1458 AND HB 1197
Our Public Sector Heroes Deserve Better

These bills needlessly and cruelly make it much harder for public sector workers to join or remain in their union.

These bills change current law for public sector unions and their members in significant and harmful ways. These changes in law, some of which have previously applied only to instructional personnel, will apply to the unions for all public sector workers except those representing law enforcement officers, firefighters or corrections officers.

Some of these changes include:
• The bills ban automatic paycheck deductions for union dues for public sector bargaining units.
• These bills require all public sector unions, other than those exempted, to prove that they represent 50% or more of the total bargaining unit through the payment of dues or risk decertification.
• The bills would impose a mandatory re-authorization of dues deductions every year.
• Membership forms must contain state crafted language that seeks to encourage them not to join.
• These bills also add new reporting and data collection requirements for bargaining units representing these workers.

➢ SB 1458 / HB 1197 are unnecessary. Florida’s workers NEVER have to join their union. It is their choice and they can cancel their membership at any time.
➢ SB 1458 / HB 1197 place burdens on workers who want to be a member in their union. It forces them to reauthorize every year’ even though they can already quit at any time.
➢ SB 1458 / HB 1197 hurt our public workers who want and have a constitutional right to union representation. Over 50% of the workforce must vote YES to create the bargaining unit. Florida’s workers don’t have to pay dues to enjoy the benefits, how is it fair to penalize those who want to join?
➢ SB 1458 / HB 1197 ignore the rights of our public workers. Florida’s public sector workers have a guaranteed constitutional right to be in a union. These rights can’t be eliminated based on the inability of some to pay dues. If public sector workers vote to have a union, that vote must be recognized. If workers no longer want a union, they can vote to remove it. The paying of dues is irrelevant.

Our public workers have been the heroes of this pandemic, they deserve our support not big government harassment!