



Pennsylvania Conference of Teamsters

Strength in Numbers 95,000

William Hamilton, President & Eastern PA Legislative Coordinator – Joseph Molinero, Sec.-Treasurer & Western PA Legislative Coordinator – Tim O'Neill, Consultant – Dan Grace, Trustee & Legislative Advisor – Robert Baptiste, Esq. Legal Advisor

LEGISLATIVE ACTION ALERT

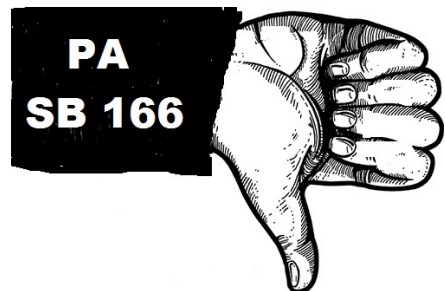
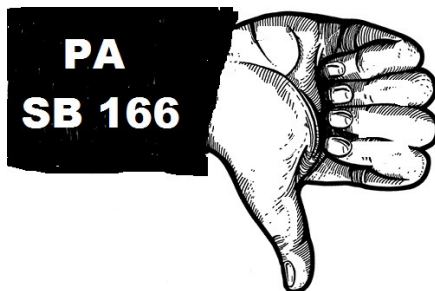
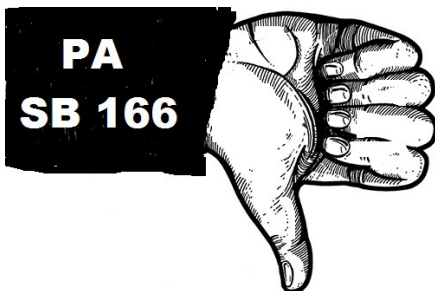
URGENT ACTION NEEDED NOW

A “Paycheck Protection” bill will be coming to the PA House floor next week for a vote. Senate Bill 166, which passed

(Harrisburg, PA – November 29, 2017) While Governor Wolf as assured us that he will veto this bill, **we need to prevent this bill from passing the house.** As you may recall, SB 166 passed the PA Senate in February by a 28-22 vote. All 16 Democrats voted against the bill, with 6 Republicans joining them.

House members are in their district offices this week and the PA Conference of Teamsters strongly urge you to contact your State House Representative by fax, phone, mail or email and tell them the Teamsters are strongly opposed to SB 166 and you are respectfully asking them to vote **NO** on this bill.

Attached is a two-page letter from President Hamilton that was sent to all members of the PA House and all PA Senate members





PENNSYLVANIA CONFERENCE OF TEAMSTERS

AFFILIATED WITH THE INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS
814 NORTH SECOND STREET · HARRISBURG, PA 17102-3212

William Hamilton, President

Howard Wells -Vice President
Joseph Molinero - Secretary-Treasurer
Betty Rose Fischer – Recording Secretary

Trustees:
Jock Rowe– Daniel Grace
Ed Clowes

Directors:
Eugene Bosetti – Joseph W. Smith, Jr.
Carl A. Bailey – Marc Dreves
Charles Argeros - Al Waltz
Patrick D. Connors

November 29, 2017

RE: PA SB 166

Dear PA Representative:

This “paycheck protection” is an unnecessary new law backed by big corporations, CEOs, and special interest groups to silence the voice of working families and their unions, which ensure workers are treated fairly, and can secure fair pay and safe working conditions. This bill deals with “Paycheck Protection Deception”.

“Paycheck protection” is part of a national effort being pushed by the same big corporations and CEOs who for years boosted their profits by sending American jobs overseas. Now the corporate special interests are targeting Pennsylvania to silence the voice of working families in our political system.

“Paycheck protection” attempts to silence the voice of public servants, including police officers, firefighters, and teachers. The push for “paycheck protection” is a part of national push, led by corporate special interest groups, to restrict workers’ rights and working families’ voice in the political process.

The PA Conference of Teamsters is appalled by some of the PA Senate and House member’s total disregard for their hard working constituents.

No worker can be forced to fund a union’s political and legislative activities. As it stands, union members choose whether to join the union, set their own dues, elect their own leaders, and vote on where and how their money will be spent. , It is already law that the unions’ dues from members **CANNOT** be used for political purposes. Our Commonwealth currently allows numerous payroll deductions for public employees towards health insurance, United Way, prescription drug, and life insurance companies, to name a few. These very corporations spend untold amounts of money themselves to advocate on their issues. These political and lobbying activities are utterly untouched by SB 166.

There are so many dire problems facing Pennsylvania and yet some members of the PA Senate and PA House find it necessary to continue to waste time and taxpayers’ money playing politics instead of taking care of critical issues such as bringing in and maintaining good family sustaining jobs. It is the union that has negotiated family sustaining wages for many of your constituents so they would have the resources to provide for their families. Take a look back at you family history; we are certain that unions have helped your family at some point in the past.

You are not being entirely forthright with your constituents by claiming that these deductions from unions are costing the taxpayers a lot of tax dollars and the union is using dues money to campaign with.

If you haven't bothered to look at the collective bargaining agreements between the Commonwealth and the union maybe you should take the time to enlighten yourself. Many collective bargaining agreements already have provisions dealing with the cost of deductions. One of the Commonwealth's biggest collective bargaining agreements already addresses Political Contribution deductions. (See the language on page two)

This language was mutually agreed to between the Commonwealth and the union through collective bargaining.

ARTICLE 42

POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE DEDUCTIONS

Section 1 *The Employer agrees to deduct from the paycheck of employees covered by this Agreement voluntary contributions to the Union's Political Action Committee. The Employer shall make such deductions only in accordance with the written authorization of respective employees which shall specify the amount, frequency and duration of the deductions.*

Section 2 *The Employer shall transmit the monies deducted in accordance with this Article to the Union's Political Action Committee in accordance with the procedures agreed to by the Employer and the Union.*

Section 3 *The Union shall reimburse the Employer for the Employer's actual cost for the expenses incurred in administering this Article.*

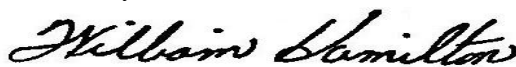
Based on the above mutually agreed to language, there is no cost to the taxpayers and therefore there is no rhyme or reason to reinvent the wheel since cost is apparently not the motivating factor here. Furthermore, dues money **CANNOT** be used for political purposes.

Therefore, the only rational conclusion is that this bill is designed to specifically silence the voice of working families in our political system.

On behalf of the PA Conference of Teamsters and our 95,000 members, their families and thousands of Teamster retirees, we are asking you to standup for the working men and women of Pennsylvania and vote **NO** on SB 166 and any other similar legislation. The constituents you will hurt voting in favor of this disastrous legislation are the people that protect you and your families, deliver your food and goods, provide safe transportation, and educate your children.

Working men and women have a right to voice their political views and they should not be stifled by having their representatives attempt to silence them through unnecessary legislation.

Sincerely,



William Hamilton
President

WH:tcf

CC: Hon. Governor Tom Wolf
PA State House
General President James P. Hoffa, IBT
Joseph Molinero, President Teamsters Joint Council No. 40
Daniel Grace, Secretary-Treasurer Teamsters Local No. 830
All Affiliates of the PA Conference of Teamsters