

Opposition to HB 4233

My name is Steve Delie, and I am the Director of Labor Policy at the Mackinac Center. We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit research and educational institute that advances the principles of free markets and limited government. Through our programs, we challenge government overreach and advance free-market approaches to public policy that frees people to realize their potential and dreams. I write today to oppose House Bill 4233.

House Bill 4233

If adopted, HB 4233 would permit public employers to use public school resources to assist labor organization in collecting dues or service fees from school employees. In light of the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Janus v AFSCME*, however, the application of this bill would be limited to the collection of dues on behalf of unions.

The Mackinac Center opposes this bill on the simple grounds that public monies should not be used to assist private organizations. School funding should be devoted to improving the education of Michigan's students, and ensuring that they have the skills, resources, and instruction needed to prepare them for success in the future. Diverting this funding to exclusively benefit unions offers no such benefit. Instead, it amounts to a taxpayer subsidy for unions.

Should HB 4233 be adopted, the public will be financially responsible for the collection of union dues. These dues exclusively benefit unions, and offer no benefit to the generalized taxpayer. As a result, unions, rather than the public generally, should be responsible for the collection of these fees. HB 4233 represents yet another handout to unions at the expense of the taxpayer, and as such, should be rejected.

Conclusion

HB 4233 benefits unions at the expense of Michigan's students and taxpayers. As a result, we urge you to reject this bill.

Steve Delie

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