



May 2018

Paycheck Protection

What is paycheck protection?

Paycheck protection ends the use of public resources to collect government unions' political money. Under current law, state and local governments (including school districts) take both union dues—a portion of which is used for politics—and campaign contributions out of workers' paychecks and send the funds directly to union leaders. Paycheck protection would end this unfair arrangement and misuse of taxpayer resources.

Current paycheck protection legislation.

After passing the Senate in February 2017 and House State Government Committee in November 2017, paycheck protection [SB 166](#) narrowly failed to gather full House approval in December. The amended legislation [prohibits government from collecting and distributing campaign contributions](#). The exclusive beneficiaries of this arrangement, government unions would no longer have PAC and campaign contributions gathered at taxpayers' expense.

The committee also advanced [HB 1174](#), which ends the taxpayer-funded collection of government union PAC and SuperPAC contributions, exempting public safety unions.

Pennsylvania government unions have spent more than \$116 million on politics since 2007.

In the 2015-16 election cycle, the top 14 Pennsylvania government union PACs alone spent more than \$9.6 million on politics. Governor Wolf has [received more than \\$6 million](#) since 2014.

PA GOVERNMENT UNION POLITICAL SPENDING

2007-17

UNION	PAC	DUES SPENT ON "POLITICAL ACTIVITIES & LOBBYING"	Total
PSEA	\$13,165,921	\$32,231,291	\$45,397,212
Philadelphia Federation of Teachers	\$2,525,802	Not reported	\$2,525,802
AFSCME Council 13	\$5,740,703	\$11,350,190	\$17,090,893
AFSCME People*	\$4,775,584	Not reported	\$4,775,584
SEIU State Leadership Council	\$6,117,636	\$6,553,093	\$12,670,729
SEIU Local 668	\$1,061,464	\$3,985,083	\$5,046,547
SEIU Healthcare PA	\$433,849	\$9,095,691	\$9,529,540
UFCW Local 1776	\$1,820,657	\$4,075,779	\$5,896,436
PA AFL-CIO	\$1,150,698	Not reported	\$1,150,698
AFT Pennsylvania	\$202,828	\$650,617	\$853,445
Pittsburgh Federation of Teachers	\$431,633	Not reported	\$431,633
American Federation of Teachers*	\$500,285	Not reported	\$500,285
PSCOA	\$1,765,071	Not reported	\$1,765,071
APSCUF	\$1,188,264	Not reported	\$1,188,264
FOP State Lodge	\$308,189	Not reported	\$308,189
PPFFA	\$232,081	\$550,436	\$782,517
Pennsylvanians for Judicial Reform (SuperPAC)	\$3,385,109	Not reported	\$3,385,109
PA Families First (IEC or SuperPAC)	\$3,003,538	Not reported	\$3,003,538
Total	\$47,809,312	\$68,492,180	\$116,301,492

 [Download data](#)

Source: [Campaign Finance Online Reporting](#); [Form LM-2 Annual Reports](#); *PA-only donations.

Paycheck Protection will protect taxpayers.

It is a crime for elected officials to use one dollar of public resources for politics. The same principle should apply to government unions. It is not fair to force taxpayers to pay for partisan politics.

Paycheck protection will benefit union members.

Paycheck protection strengthens the rights of teachers and state workers, better informing their decision over whether to support their union leaders' political agenda. It does not change the relationship between workers and their union.

PA GOVERNMENT UNION PROFILES

2017

	PSEA	AFSCME Council 13	UFCW 1776	SEIU Local 668	AFT-PA	SEIU Healthcare
Members and Fee Payers	187,111	65,370	22,176	19,879	27,590	22,056
Total Revenue	\$99,078,585	\$37,509,014	\$18,566,646	\$11,938,170	\$2,474,311	\$18,233,856
Political Activity & Lobbying	\$2,878,953	\$658,004	\$250,425	\$94,701	\$0	\$857,516
Chief Executive	W. Gerard Oleksiak*	David Fillman	Wendell Young, IV	Tom Herman*	Theodore Kirsch	Matthew Yarnell
CEO/Pres. Compensation	\$258,538	\$233,572	\$351,673	\$101,752	\$187,522	\$105,571
Regular Dues for Full Time Member	\$517/year	1.5% of salary	\$17.97/week	1.39% of salary	\$11.30/month	1.8%+\$1/month

Source: Form LM-2 Labor Organization Annual Reports; *as of last reporting

Paycheck Protection has bipartisan support.

According to a September 2015 poll, more than two-thirds of Pennsylvania voters believe we should end the use of taxpayer resources for the collection of union dues and campaign contributions. Support transcends all political parties and regions.

	Party				Region							
	Overall	Republican	Democrat	Independent	NW	SW	Central	NE/Lehigh Vall	S Central	SE	Allegheny	Philly
Total Support	67%	75	59	69								
Total Oppose	26%	16	34	22								
Undecided	7%	7	6	9								
Total Support	72%	75	67	55	76	68	72	53				
Total Oppose	21%	24	22	30	18	25	19	43				
Undecided	7%	1	9	12	6	7	8	4				

Susquehanna Polling and Research poll of 700 registered voters, September 14-23, 2015