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APPROVED

Resolution Opposing Effort to Ban Public Employee Payroll Dues Deduction

WHEREAS, firefighters, police, teachers, nurses and other public employees in Texas benefit from the freedom to schedule deductions from their paychecks for union dues, charitable purposes and support of other organizations of their choosing;

WHEREAS, such voluntary deductions are part of the ordinary course of business for a broad range of employers, both public and private, and are appropriate for governments to facilitate in their role as an employer;

WHEREAS, voluntary payroll deductions come from the pockets of public employees who have earned their pay and at that point have the economic freedom to spend the funds as they see fit;

WHEREAS, by law in Texas voluntary payroll deductions for dues to labor organizations cost taxpayers nothing;

WHEREAS, by law in Texas no worker is required to join a labor organization, pay dues or sign up for payroll deduction, and all workers may get in or out of a payroll deduction arrangement at any time;

WHEREAS, payroll deduction supports organizations that run the gamut in their viewpoints, many of which lobby the Legislature from diverse perspectives according to the democratically expressed wishes of dues-payers and contributors;

WHEREAS, a national campaign to ban payroll dues deduction for labor unions alone – singling out organizations that firefighters, police, teachers, nurses and other working people voluntarily choose to support – has resulted in failed legislation in Texas both in 2015 and 2017, but is expected to return for another try when the Texas Legislature convenes in 2019;

Now therefore BE IT RESOLVED, that delegates OPPOSE any legislation that would single out public employees and deny them their economic freedom to choose which organizations they may support through payroll dues deduction.

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Sec May Baron