



TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO HB 172

– Income Tax – Determination of Taxable Income – Union Dues and Expenses to Influence Collective Bargaining

January 14, 2022

To: Hon. Vanessa Atterbeary, Chair, and members of the House Ways and Means Committee

From: Warren Randall Pointer, Electronics Technician III, AFSCME Local 1072 Shop Steward, AFSCME Local 1072 Executive Board Member, Secretary.

Ms. Atterbeary et al:

I am writing you to express my strong support for the proposed bill outlined in HB 172. This bill does two great things: 1) It allows union members to deduct union dues from their state taxes and 2) it stops companies from being able to write-off union busting activities on their state taxes as deductible business expenses.

On January 18, HB 172 will have a hearing in the House Ways and Means Committee at 11:00 am. It is my hope that Ms. Atterbeary and the entire committee will pass this bill for the sake of all unions in the great state of Maryland. At my job site the contract that governs the worker management relationship comes up for renewal through the process of collective bargaining every three years. Management hires a union busting law firm to represent their interests every time this collective bargaining happens. This expense should not be deductible for the University. Also, if union workers could deduct their union dues from their state taxes, it would strengthen the worker's financial outlook and serve as another reason for workers to join a union.

So again, I implore you to show your favorable support of HB 172 when it is heard by the House Ways and Means Committee this January 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am.

Sincerely,

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