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Teachers' First Amendment Rights Obstructed by WEA-Drafted Bill

Thank you to Angie Dorman, Warden High School teacher, for speaking out so forcefully against House Bill 2079, a proposed law that will eliminate the protections of Washington's paycheck protection law. The U.S. Supreme Court recently reviewed this law. Analysts believe the court will favor protecting the rights of nonunion workers from having their paychecks plundered by union officials for politics they do not support. If signed into law, however, House Bill 2079 could nullify the very protections the court may support.

This shameless, self-serving bill is designed to singularly benefit unions and those legislators whose consciences are incapacitated by union money. It obstructs the First Amendment rights of hard-working citizens by forcing them to pay for politics they do not espouse.

Legislators who support this bill further place our system at the mercy of powerful corporate interests. Unions like the Washington Education Association (WEA) have become just one more corporate exploiter looking to squeeze the little guy for power, privilege, and perks. This WEA-drafted bill shows that the teachers union is unconcerned with the rights and dignity of the teachers it represents. Fortunately, there are still teachers like Dorman who are willing to stand up for the disenfranchised and vulnerable.

Legislators who support this bill apparently regard citizen exploitation a privilege of their position. Everyone should oppose this despicable bill. Basic decency, respect, and fairness for citizens is at stake.

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