

# The Truth about SB 13/HB 510



## Voluntary Paycheck Dues Deduction

**SB 13/HB 510** does not save one penny of taxpayer money and it has no impact on private business. Rather, it is an effort to deny only a certain group of public employees the freedom to spend their paychecks — their own money — as they see fit. The bill denies these employees the right to make **voluntary** payments from **their** earnings via safe and secure payroll dues deduction to the employee or professional organization of their choice. **Contrary to what the supporters of SB13/HB510 claim, here are the facts.**

- **In Texas, joining a professional association or union is entirely voluntary, and so is payroll deduction.** Texas is a right to work state, and every public employee in Texas who chooses to join and direct a portion of their earnings to pay for representation by an employee or professional organization does so voluntarily.
- **Payroll deduction costs taxpayers nothing.** Contrary to claims made by proponents of SB13/HB510, the payroll deduction system has no cost to taxpayers. State law explicitly provides that the organization receiving dues is responsible for any administrative costs incurred in processing the deduction.
- **Payroll deduction for public employees does not affect small business.** Despite the misleading claims made by NFIB, this proposed legislation has nothing at all to do with private businesses, small or large. Employees affected by this bill work in the public sector, not in private businesses.
- **SB13/HB510 gives some public employees a right to use payroll deduction and denies it to others.** Teachers, CPS workers, correctional officers, retirees, and other public employees should not be singled out and denied the ability to contribute to the responsible, law-abiding organizations of their choice.
- **Dues cannot be used for political contributions.** Under the Election Code, employee organizations may not use dues dollars for political contributions. Such contributions require formation of a political action committee. All income and expenditures from a PAC must be reported in compliance with state law.
- **Payroll deduction provides safety and security for employees.** Payroll deduction provides a safe and secure means of making payments in timely fashion and minimizes risk of ID theft and credit card fraud.
- **TSTA locals often work with local campus and school district leaders** to advocate for the resources our students need to succeed and provide professional development for our members.

