



northwest professional educators

NO TEACHER IS REQUIRED TO FUND UNION POLITICAL CAUSES YOU CAN PROTECT YOUR PAYCHECK!

State law in Washington and Oregon allows mandatory union representation fees as a condition of employment. Nonunion employees have court-provided options, however, to protect themselves from funding nonrepresentational union activities such as political organizing and contributions. (See www.ichoosecharity.org and www.nwpe.org/referral_tools.htm for documentation of union activities.)

GET MONEY BACK! \$200-\$300 UNION DUES REBATE

Nonunion teachers or “agency fee payers” can object to paying full dues and can request a union rebate for nonrepresentational expenditures. The annual rebate is approximately \$200-\$300.

To receive the union dues rebate, nonunion teachers must request it every year by the state association’s deadline. If the deadline is missed, you will not receive the rebate and your representation fees will fund the union’s political contributions and activities.

Teachers exercising this option are advised to get on an annual reminder list by contacting Northwest Professional Educators. See:

Agency Fee Objector Letter

www.nwpe.org/union_opt_out_tools.htm

DUES FOR CHARITY RELIGIOUS OBJECTOR OPTION

A religious objector is an individual of faith who refuses union membership for reasons of conscience. If the union’s activities violate your sincere moral and religious beliefs, you may send the equivalent of your dues to a charity. You may also receive a charitable contribution deduction for donating their dues to charity.

To obtain religious objector status, you must write a letter explaining your religious objection to the union. Once approved, you do not have to renew your status each year. There are no deadlines to request religious objector status.

Please contact NWPE for a free legal review of your letter. See:

Religious Objector Letter

www.nwpe.org/union_opt_out_tools.htm

PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT FROM NORTHWEST PROFESSIONAL EDUCATORS

Contact Northwest Professional Educators at 800-380-6973 or visit www.nwpe.org for more information about teachers’ rights, how to exercise them, and the benefits of NWPE membership. NWPE provides educators with liability insurance, legal services, grants and scholarships, education updates, caring support, networking with like-minded educators, and a voice on education issues. For just \$16.50 a month, NWPE’s policy provides twice the protection of the teachers union and assistance with legal fees for job protection issues. No other organization can make that promise!