

Pennsylvania Conference of Teamsters

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LEGISLATIVE ACTION ALERT

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Utah House approves banning collective bargaining for public sector unions



Labor unions that serve teachers, firefighters, police and other public employees in Utah will no longer be able to negotiate on behalf of their workers under Utah House Bill 267 HB267 the Republican policy banning collective bargaining for all public sector professions passed the Senate in a 16-13 and passed the Utha House of Representatives, 42-32.

The bill bans public sector unions from collective bargaining, which is the process of negotiating a contract with their employers. It also mandates that taxpayer money cannot be used to promote a union.

The sponsor, Rep. Jordan Teuscher, R-South Jordan, said unions that don't represent everyone are often the only ones at the negotiating table.

The bill, will impact police, firefighters, and other public workers.

"Despite the best intentions of the sponsor, I believe this legislation is anti-worker, it's anti-family, and it's anti-Utah values," said Rep. Jen Dailey-Provost, D-Salt Lake City.

Anna Heath, who teaches science at Jefferson Junior High, said the bill threatens teachers' collective bargaining rights as well.

State employees could still join unions under the bill. However, unions could not negotiate on the state employee's behalf for better wages and working conditions.

Firefighter Jack Tidrow, who has shown up at the Legislature nearly every day for two weeks to voice his opposition, said unions play a crucial role in keeping firefighters safe on the job. Utah is less safe now

