

*Representing teachers in the towns of Alexandria, Bridgewater,
Bristol, Danbury, Groton, Hebron and New Hampton*

February 8, 2017

Honorable Stephen Schmidt, Chairman
House Labor, Industrial and Rehabilitative Services Committee
Legislation Office Building, Room #307
107 North Main Street
Concord NH 03301

Re: Testimony In Opposition to Senate Bill 11 and House Bill 520

Dear Honorable Chairman Schmidt and Members of the Committee,

My name is Deirdre Conway, I am a second-grade teacher in the Newfound Area School District where I have taught for over 25 years. I am the president of our local teachers' union, where we do not have agency fee, and believe local control is of utmost importance. I am a proud negotiator for all the teachers in Newfound and I also work for each and every one of them, member or not.

I am writing to urge you to vote against Senate Bill 11 and House Bill 520, the so-called "Right To Work" legislation.

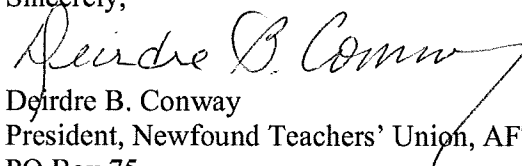
I would ask you to carefully examine the reasons for this legislation. Please consider the following facts:

Granite State business experts agree that the "Right To Work" legislation does not address the factors employers say are most important. Under current laws (both state and local) no worker can be forced to join a union or pay union dues, so why do you feel the need for this legislation? "Right To Work" in other states has NOT increased jobs or improved their state's economy. Do you have reason to believe NH will be different? From what I have read, there is no compelling reason to believe so.

I would urge you to vote no on SB 11 and HB 520 and concentrate your efforts on issues which affect all of New Hampshire's citizens and taxpayers.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,


Deirdre B. Conway
President, Newfound Teachers' Union, AFT#6557
PO Box 75
Ashland, NH 03217