

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 Josh English and I am a police officer at the Keene Police Department. I have been a police officer in Keene for 13 years. I currently serve as Vice-President of the Keene Police Officers' Association and have been involved in my union throughout my entire career.

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


While our Union does not have any agency fee provision, this legislation serves no purpose other than trying to weaken unions and the good work unions do on behalf members every single day. I know that our Union deals with not only wage and benefit issues but also working conditions, safety concerns, training and professional certification issues. We have built a strong labor-management relationship within our department and with the City of Keene. This unnecessary attack on unions only hurts our ability to do our work on behalf of our members and for the public good.

I would ask you to carefully examine the reasons for this legislation. I have reviewed the statistics about the quality of life, per capita income, education attainment and poverty rates in those states with so-called Right to Work. I am proud of where we stand with our New Hampshire advantage and do not want to see us fall behind. This legislation will take us down the wrong path.

I would urge you to vote no on SB 11 and HB 520.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Joshua English  
Vice-President, Keene Police Officers' Association, AFT#6246  
Keene, NH