

**Raymond Educational Support Staff, AFT #4823, AFT-NH, AFL-CIO**

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 SB 11 and HB 520

Dear Honorable Chairman Schmidt and Members of the Labor Committee,

I am asking you to vote NO on the so-called Right to Work bills before your committee. In my opinion, these bills are only meant to hurt unions and have nothing to do with the "right" to work.

I currently work as a para-educator in the Raymond School District. Prior to this, I have also been a teacher and served on my local school board. I also serve on my local budget committee. This issue has not been discussed in our community and I do not know why this is even a considered change. It will not help our economy in NH, as there is no proof presented from what I have read.

I am President of the Raymond Educational Support Staff and we represent more than 100 para-educators, secretaries, custodians and café personnel. We do have agency fee but the overwhelming majority are members. We work hard for all of our employees regardless of membership status. No one is forced to join our union. All get the same pay raises, benefits and representation.

Can't we just put this issue to bed for the last time since it has been defcated for the last 30-40 years under Republicans and Democrats?

On behalf of the Raymond Educational Support Staff, I ask you to vote no on SB 11 and HB 520.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Sandra L. Ellis, President  
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Raymond, NH 03077