

I am totally for a similar ban in California. I hate seeing all of the support going to candidates from the same party and then that party making decisions which have cost the state dearly. Anything that will weaken the misguided political power of the CTA is welcomed.

I believe that California should have a similar law.

I would love it if the union had to have the funds given them directed by the members. I find it totally unacceptable that the union forces its members to support those candidates it deems worthy.

I would love to see this enacted!! I am so tired of my money being spent to back bills with which I do not even agree. I receive full color brochures telling how I should vote on sensitive topics not having to do with education that are paid for with my own money. I do not need the union telling me how to vote nor do I believe they should be involved in politics, especially when they never even ask teachers' opinions on the topics.

Yes I would and this will fit well into my agenda for the website I'm building.

When I retired from teaching, there were several things I missed and several things I was very happy about avoiding. One of my greater joys was no longer having to submit to extortion by CTA to force me to pay to advocate political positions that I personally did not support.

California absolutely needs this law. I would guess 99% of all union donations go to liberal causes which go against those of us who would prefer they go to conservative candidates and positions.

As an agency fee payer already, I don't mind either way since I get a refund of these fees each year. However, I know of quite a few teachers that would probably not pay the money the CTA or NEA wants because it does not represent their interests.

I don't always agree with how CTA uses legal funds. If the law allows teachers to support whatever they want and decrease the rising union teacher cost union bills each year, I am all for it.

I admit it. I will be the first one dancing in the street if similar legislation occurs here in California. However, the question remains, "What happens after we be-head the beast?"

Yes, I would love to see that.

HELL yes! If the unions would stick to what they are supposed to be doing maybe the schools wouldn't be such a colossal disaster. If they would spend more time pointing out how much money is wasted at the top, or on how little support teachers get from parents and administrators when the kids misbehave their time would be far better spent.

As you probably know I'm a conservative Republican and I'm sick of the misleading adds the union keeps spending money on. I could go on and on, but I think you get the point.

No dues for political parties!!!

Teachers in Ca just had their dues raised by \$22. a year during the biggest economic downturn in their lifetime. They likely will not see any significant raises in the next 5 years so yes anything that will put a few more dollars in their pocket will help them. The union gives their money away to every liberal leaning cause in the world except to education. Yes, yes, yes--I'd love to see this. I'd love to see CA become a right-to-work state, too.

Yes, I would like to see the system changed to prevent abuses.

I resent the CTA using my hard-earned money to support causes that are antithetical to my ideology. What do many of these "do-good" policies have to do with educating children? Nothing I surmise. CTA is essentially another form of taxation that I do not want nor need.

I love this idea! I frequently disagree with the positions our union takes on political issues, and I don't want *my* hard earned money used to fund the opposing side. Not to mention the fact that the union often spends our money on political issues not even related to education! I am able to "opt out" of using my dues money for political causes (after filling out a form every year), but I only get a \$20 refund.

Same as Texas and Utah.

Any way we can cut political monies going towards teacher unions or to political parties. I am in favor of.... I hope I read this right.

I would definitely like to see something like that in New York. I would also like to see an organization like this set up in New York. Enough is enough.

I believe donations for political causes should be given individually with a separate check.

I would very much like to see something like that in California.

We should have to choose to have our money go to PAC's, as having our money currently go-without choice-to PAC's is wrong, as what if we morally disagree with it? Can't we have a say? Besides, I feel unions should not use funds to sway politics. Use a voice of reason instead and save the money to directly help students and teachers, it has more impact.

It would be better just to be a Right To Work state!

Yes, I would like to see the same here in California

I would love to see that type of situation. I think that we need to look toward the model that ASCA has - here is the dollar amount it costs to join the membership and check here if you would like to assist with our PAC by donating \$xx.

This way I get the benefits of joining a membership without feeling like I have to contribute to all the political causes they support.

A system like this should also allow for a person to support the political cause of fixing the education funding problem without having to support the political cause of same-sex marriage. Hey, even better - make school districts open shops - then lets see what happens.

Sorry if I sound a little bitter - my union had the audacity to walk into negotiations last week and ask for a 6% raise. Yes I said they asked for a 6% RAISE - the rest of the state is losing salaries and jobs and the Plumas Lake Teacher Association asked for a raise.

Thank you for your information, with it I was able to make sure that my personal monies go to a more worthy cause than the pockets of the CTA and its cronies.

Keep it the way it is!!

I would love to see a situation like this in California, as a fee payer to get these political monies back, I could then be a full member of the union. Please try, although I don't have much hope. The California union is quite strong, and totally one-sided. Thanks!

I would love to see political intrest funding eliminated! Or if we had the choice of a union that is as conservative as our CTA is liberal, I would not mind contributing.

Definitely YES!!!!

We resent being virtually compelled to finance political activities with which we adamantly disagree. That is the very definition of tyranny - as explained by Thomas Jefferson.

If such a law were in place in California, we would be MORE supportive of the CTA's NON-political activities.

I agree with the Texas Attorney General's opinion. The union leadership doesn't give the teachers enough say in where they want the political funding to go, so it should go back to the teachers to choose.

Each year I am forced to go through hoops in order to be reimbursed for the amount of money CTA takes out of my paycheck for political action. There are several reasons I go through this trouble. First, CTA did not ask if I wished to contribute to their political action fund. Second, during my 20 years as a public school teacher, I have rarely if ever been on the same side of the

political fence as the CTA. And third, life in southern California is not cheap, and I don't have money to throw around as freely as the CTA appears to do.

I do not join the union because I do not want ANY of my hard earned money going for political purposes. I would LOVE to see a TX situation here in CA.

Yes! How can we do this?

I teach in San Francisco Unified. I would like to see the same thing in California, that the teachers' union may not fund political action committees. I would also like to see our textbooks rewritten with the truth, instead of liberal relativism. Let's adopt the Texas textbooks

Leave it to Texas to use some common sense, again. Right now in California, CTA seems like a mafioso "protection racket" according to teachers that I talk to. I consistently hear, "I don't agree with their politics, but I can't afford to be without their insurance/liability protection/legal protection/ etc. " It seems almost traitorous to me that CTA seems to relish the idea of "taxation without representation". The union would claim that it has elected committees that make decisions for the PAC, but I was a member for three years and NEVER had any voice in the PAC decisions, nor did any teacher I know of. The current set-up of strong-arming money from teachers without their consent for purposes that many of them do not endorse is, in my opinion, immoral, unethical, and unAmerican. It would be a dream come true to see the Goliath CTA forced to give teachers a real choice as to whether or not to support CTA's self-serving politics.

I would like to see the same action as TX or UT here in California. Our union dues will be \$110 in September yet we are taking an approximate \$8000 cut in pay. The union backs people opposite of my political view and it makes me mad that my dues are going to these crooks.

ABSOLUTELY! Why should our money go to political activism without choice?? No other organization/company gets such involuntary monetary support.

Are you kidding? Aside from wanting the union abolished completely for a 100% refund, I would take the 30%. Go Utes! Go Longhorns!

What happened in Texas and Utah regarding the use of teacher deductions for political activities needs to happen in California immediately. It is way overdue in California! If you take the time to look into it, you will find a **very large population of teachers** in this state that have been against this for quite some time. But because of lack of knowledge regarding their rights in this area, teachers have sat back and done nothing. **CTA** does nothing to inform their membership of their rights regarding political action money in the form of deductions, not to mention the **NEA**. You really never know where your dues are going.

My local teacher union actually looked into the possibility of separating from CTA because of a few people who expressed interest in this possibility. However after that one day meeting with a rep from an alternative organization, the idea was quickly swept

under the rug and done away with. Nothing has been said to the membership about this idea since that meeting. However, I can truly say I do believe change is in the air!

Thanks for the great work you are all doing at CTEN!

I would love it, if we followed Texas in THAT example!!!!!!

Yes I would.

Yes, I absolutely agree with the Texas Attorney General! That is why I "opt" out of our union. I pay 70% of dues and have no voting privileges. I would be satisfied to be member of the teachers union if there were no PAC contributions taken from our dues.

Our union rep, the CTA, and the NEA have sent their recommendations to all teachers via email for the June elections. I am totally opposed to using district email for these types of communications.

Thanks for asking. I just hope that we can actually do something about it!

I am against my union dues going towards anything political. The union always votes liberal and is just not fair for conservatives to have their money given to causes that they are against.

Only \$300? I thought it was more. Cut the motherf***ers off without a dime.

I am very much in favor of this. I know that most politicians in CA look at the bills they pass as a means of getting re-elected. They therefore pass legislation favoring unions and interest groups. One of the greatest contributors to those politicians is the CTA. The CA legislature is on the verge of passing a mountain of tax increases to balance the budget. This will likely drive many out of CA. We need to rid ourselves of those in the legislature who pass only what may get them re-elected to avoid this crushing situation.

I would absolutely LOVE to see a law that prevented 'forced' teacher's union dues used for political purposes.

Any political purposesfor any party!!!

Teachers unions are supposed to focus on EDUCATION, not getting their Democratic Party cronies elected to

office. All teachers should be free to contribute to, and then vote for, the candidate of their choice.

This will be a shock to CTA and NEA, but NOT 100% of all teachers are Democrats. I can't remember the last time

a Republican candidate was endorsed for anything. Go figure.

This type of legal protection is EXACTLY what we need.

In CA, we should DEFINITELY **not** fund political actions -of any sort- via payroll deductions! Thanks for asking.

I think that anyone who is in favor of this should move to Texas and get a teaching job. For those who don't know it Texas is a "Right to Work" state which is a misnomer that should read "employers have the right to keep unions from closing shop". My cousins who are teachers in Texas are among the lowest paid in the country. About 15 years ago I did a study where I compared average teacher salaries in "Right to Work" states with average salaries in states where unions have the right to close the shop. The salaries were adjusted for the cost of living and the free to organize state teachers were making about \$5-6,000 dollars more per year (1994 dollars). This more that covers your dues and political contributions. If you don't like unions then move to a "Right To Work" state. These states advertise for businesses to come on down where the wages are low and they won't be bothered by pesky unions or anything else that might give working people some power in their workplace. Be careful though, because the safety records for workers in these states show a much higher rate of accidents on the job. The way British Petroleum has been burning workers to death in refineries and on drilling platforms in recent times is confirmation of this.

Teachers should be allowed to decide for themselves.
If they wish to write a check, so be it.
No union or employer should be empowered to use payroll deductions, as that deprives individuals of control.

I WOULD LIKE to see this happen in CA. The CTA and NEA do not share or fund the issues and candidates that I support. I think that many other teachers here are in a similar situation. I also do not like that I, being an "agency fee payer" (dues paying non-member), have to remind the union each year and request a "refund" of the portion of the dues that are deemed "political contributions", whereas a union member does not have to re-up their membership each year. Is the union trying to keep money that it is not entitled to because a teacher does not request the refund in time? I mean the beginning of the school year is so peaceful and nothing is going on that the teacher has time to write and post this request each year!!!
Thank you for this chance to vent :-)

I would be in favor of implementing in California what Texas and/or Utah has done. What the NEA/CTA/UTP does with our hard-earned money is a disgrace. They have had a monopoly on the teaching profession long enough. I would like to see them gone.

I know I am tardy in my reply, but my vote is to go the route of TX and UT, considering that I don't think we need to be in the business of politics, but rather in the business of educating KIDS.
Thanks,