

S U P A

Stop Union Political Abuse

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Via email to: info@perc.wa.gov

RE: Rulemaking to Inform Workers of Their Rights

To Whom It May Concern:

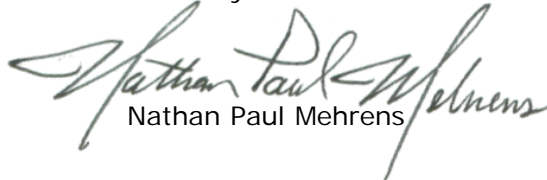
By way of introduction, Stop Union Political Abuse (SUPA) is a grassroots organization dedicated to rolling back the power of labor unions to force workers to finance objectionable political agendas as a condition of employment.

I have been informed that on March 24, 2003, the Public Employment Relations Commission was petitioned by several Washington State public employees seeking a rule change that would give workers more information about labor unions. The changes sought would require unions to notify employees of their right to opt out of the union and would also require large unions to disclose financial expenditures to members upon request.

It is a fundamental tenant of this country that every person has the right to freely decide what political candidates and causes to support. Unfortunately, many workers are unaware that they have the ability to refrain from financially supporting the ideological driven political agendas of their unions – agendas which often directly counter the worker's views. Requiring unions to provide more information to workers will enable workers to make informed decisions about their support for the unions' political activities.

I strongly urge the Commission to initiate rulemaking and to bring about the changes sought. This is a step in the right direction to protect workers' rights. SUPA's 100,000 supporters and I will be watching your actions with great interest.

Sincerely,



Nathan Paul Mehrens