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Senator Tipping, Representative Roeder, distinguished members of the Joint Standing Committee on Labor and Housing, my name is Joshua Morris and I represent the people of Leeds, Wayne, and Turner. I am here today to present LD 187 "An Act to Prohibit Labor Organizations from Imposing Mandatory Service Fees on Nonmembers."

In 2018, the United States Supreme Court ruled in *Janus v. AFSCME* that requiring public employees to pay dues to a labor union violated their rights to freedom of association. This bill codifies that in law not just for public sector workers but private sector employees as well.

I have no issues with labor unions, if an individual wishes to join a union, that is their right and they should exercise it if they believe it improves their wages and working conditions. Unions are offering a service and like any other service, an individual should have the option not to pay for it. If the workers are happy with the service the union is offering them, they will pay their dues. If they are not, they should not have to.

Requiring them to pay any fees for a service that they do not wish to join or did not ask for is a violation of their fundamental rights to freedom of association. Many labor unions contribute money to causes and candidates or espouse positions that individuals paying them maybe opposed to. This bill requires the union to be accountable to those who pay their fees.

Thank you for your consideration and I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Joshua Morris
State Representative

District 91 Leeds, Turner & Wayne