

February 11, 2013

Dear Madam Chair and members of the Education Committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to testify before you regarding HB 2221. Over 25 years ago, I began my career in education. I knew from the beginning that I did not agree with the political philosophies of the National Education Association. It was my belief at that time that an educator could not separate their dues from the political arm of the association. I wanted the liability insurance, but did not want to support the political agenda of the association. To safe guard myself from any allegations, I took out liability insurance with State Farm. I would have rather had the opportunity to enroll in any other education organization that did not infringe on my political persuasion or other personal beliefs.

I stand in support of House Bill 2221 that would allow other organizations access for school employees the choice to choose other professional organizations that will not interfere with their personal and political principles.

Thank you for allowing me the chance to speak concerning this issue.

Sincerely,

Representative Kelly Meigs
House District 23