



1920 L STREET, N.W. - SUITE 200 - WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036 - 202-785-0266 - WWW.WORKERFREEDOM.ORG

PAYCHECK PROTECTION IN THE STATES

WASHINGTON

Washington. Enacted in 1992 (by popular initiative) as the first paycheck protection law in the Nation, the Washington statute provides no monies may be deducted from “an employee’s wages or salaries for contributions to political committees or for use as political contributions except upon the written request of the employee.” The law also provides that such a request may be revoked at any time and that the employee shall be notified at least annually of the right to revoke the request. While the Washington law includes both public and private employee unions, a 1998 lawsuit settlement between the state teachers’ union and the Attorney General limited its effectiveness by permitting the use of general union dues money for some political purposes. Still, contributions from teachers to the Washington Education Association PAC have dropped from 82% of those represented to 6%.