

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

GLENN SPENCER  
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT  
EMPLOYMENT POLICY DIVISION

1615 H STREET, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20062  
202/463-5769

February 24, 2021

The Honorable Craig Blair  
Lieutenant Governor &  
President of the Senate  
Room 229M, Building 1  
State Capitol Complex  
Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Lieutenant Governor Blair:

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce supports H.B. 2009, which relates to the withholding of funds from employees for the purpose of supporting a political candidate or activities. This bill would make it unlawful to withhold or divert an employee's salary for use as such a contribution without the employee's express, written consent. The bill further makes it an unfair labor practice for a labor organization to use dues, assessments, or other fees paid to it by an individual who is not a member of the labor organization, and it permits an employee to modify or withdraw an authorization for such paycheck deductions at any time.

The freedom to support or not to support political candidates and causes is fundamental in the United States. H.B. 2009 will protect workers from having funds deducted from their paychecks without their authorization and used to support political candidates or activities. Moreover, it will eliminate excessively onerous conditions for an individual to withdraw his or her authorization when it has been given. Protecting employees from such practices would promote a fairer workplace environment and prevent involuntary contributions for purposes they may not wish to support.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce thanks you, the Senate, and the House of Delegates for leading on this issue and we look forward to passage of H.B. 2009.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glenn Spencer", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Glenn Spencer