

Testimony in Support of HB 3789

March 10, 2025

Chair Grayber, Vice Chair Elmer, Vice Chair Munoz, and Members of the Committee,

I write to express my strong support for HB 3789, a bill that will protect union members from fraudulent misrepresentation. This bill makes it unlawful for anyone to falsely impersonate a union representative, safeguarding the integrity of union representation and the well-being of workers. It criminalizes the use of fraud or misrepresentation to obtain, possess, or transfer the identity of a union representative.

The bill addresses a growing issue: third-party entities posing as union representatives, often using union-branded merchandise like t-shirts, hats, and pins to deceive workers. These impostors persuade members to opt out of their union, misrepresenting themselves as legitimate union representatives. Additionally, fraudulent communications—via email, text, or mail—using union logos and signatures further mislead members. This deception erodes the trust workers place in their real union representatives, who advocate for their rights and interests.

HB 3789 will provide a legal framework to combat these fraudulent practices, ensuring unions can take action against impersonation. It is crucial that both union members and the public know who their legitimate labor representatives are, protecting workers from manipulation that could negatively affect their employment rights.

Unions offer essential services like legal representation, contract education, and workplace advocacy. Victims of fraudulent misrepresentation—particularly those who face economic hardship, marginalization, or language barriers—are especially vulnerable to these tactics. Such deception undermines workers' access to vital union support and harms their employment opportunities.

I urge your support for HB 3789 to eliminate fraudulent misrepresentation and ensure workers can confidently rely on their union representatives.

Sincerely,

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