



MASSACHUSETTS AFL-CIO

PRESIDENT *Steven A. Tolman*

SECRETARY/TREASURER *Louis A. Mandarini, Jr.*

July 15, 2019

The Honorable Robert A. DeLeo
Speaker of the House
State House, Room 356
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Karen E. Spilka
Senate President
State House, Room 332
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Mr. Speaker and Madame President,


First, I wish to thank you for your commitment and leadership to ensure that unions will remain a strong force for economic fairness in the wake of the *Janus* Supreme Court decision. H.3854 represents a comprehensive response to the *Janus* ruling that reflects the new landscape of collective bargaining in the public sector, and ensures that best practices for providing effective representation can be adopted by all public sector unions. To that end, I respectfully request that the House and Senate reject the amendments recommended by Governor Baker last week and re-enact H.3854 as originally sent to the Governor.

In Governor Baker's amendment letter he cites concern for the privacy rights of public employees, but fails to acknowledge that H.3854 ensures that the personal contact information of public employees will be far-better protected than under existing law by clarifying what is exempt from public records. Further, by ensuring that the exclusive representative of bargaining unit members has access to accurate employee contact information, H.3854 ensures that a practice currently included in many existing bargaining agreements, and which leads to better representation, cannot be unreasonably denied to any union.

The matters raised by Governor Baker have been thoroughly discussed and considered by both the House and Senate during debate on H.3854, and the overwhelmingly bi-partisan votes in each chamber reflect the carefully considered nature of this legislation. I urge you to please reject the Governor's amendments as soon as possible and send this legislation back to his desk.

I thank you once again for your continued efforts on behalf of public sector workers, and your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,


Steven A. Tolman
President