



## GET THE FACTS ABOUT AFSCME and POLITICS Frontline Worker Pay

## What is the AFSCME PEOPLE Fund?

"PEOPLE" stands for Public Employees Organized to Promote Legislative Equality. As workers in public service, we know what a critical difference it makes when we elect leaders who have our back when it comes to voting on our values and priorities. We deserve leaders who respect our work and that's why we fight because "If you're not at the table, you're on the menu." Frontline Worker Pay legislation was only possible because of our union member's activism, PEOPLE membership, and engagement in the halls of power!

Your job is funded by tax dollars that are distributed by politicians, your wages and benefits are negotiated through our sacred collective bargaining rights that must be defended & much more. Join PEOPLE to hold them accountable!

AFSCME uses **voluntary** contributions collected through our PEOPLE program for legislative and political advocacy through funding our legislative and political staff, community and workplace activism. Our union makes our political reports and dues information public with a **high degree of transparency** with the IRS, Federal Elections Commission, MN Campaign Finance Board, U.S. Department of Labor and others.

## How are union political endorsements made?

The mission of our PEOPLE program is **we put members first** and ensure that any/all endorsements for political office are thoroughly vetted by rank-and-file members asking hard questions of all candidates through our established screening committee process that is run by AFSCME members, for AFSCME members.

AFSCME DOES NOT endorse candidates simply by looking at their political party nor do we purposely favor one political party over another. We look at their record!

We <u>only</u> support those who support us as workers. **ALL declared candidates**, of all political parties, for a particular political office **are asked if they would like to seek our endorsement** and are required to submit a completed questionnaire developed by AFSCME Council 5 members prior to their scheduled screening with AFSCME members to best hold them accountable to our shared values.

In the screening, dues-paying AFSCME members can ask any question they wish and can use other resources including, but not limited to, the AFSCME Council 5 Legislative Scorecard, to assess if a candidate earned our endorsement. Then AFSCME PEOPLE Committee members may vote on a recommendation for endorsement. All non-federal endorsements are approved by the AFSCME Council 5 Executive Board. All federal endorsements are approved by the AFSCME International Executive Board. We are active in campaigns all across our state! Frontline Worker Pay would not be possible if it were not for our legislative and political advocacy, and local member engagement.