



Director's Office

One Capitol Hill | Providence, RI 02908 | (401) 222-2280
Jonathan Womer, Director

April 2, 2025

The Honorable Arthur J. Corvese
Chairperson
House Committee on Labor
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

Re: HB5266 – AN ACT RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS -- CERTIFIED SCHOOL TEACHERS' ARBITRATION

Dear Chairperson Corvese,

Thank you for providing the Division of Human Resources (“Division”) within the Department of Administration the opportunity to submit comments in response to House Bill No. 5266, which proposes that employers of unionized public school teachers, municipal, or state employees shall provide unions with a membership list, to include personal and demographic information, every one-hundred twenty (120) days.

Although the Division recognizes the intention of this bill is to provide transparency of membership between the employer and union, the Division has concerns with regard to the extraction and distribution of employees’ personal and demographic information. As you may know, employers bear the legal and ethical responsibility in protecting Personally Identifiable Information (PII) of employees. As the bill provides for including dates of birth, demographic data, and personal contact information to unions, this would greatly compromise the confidential PII of all State employees who are bargaining unit members.

Additionally, the Division already provides periodic lists to many of our bargaining unit agents to include general employee information, under the terms negotiated between the State and Union and then set forth in their respective collective bargaining agreements. To alter this arrangement by legislation is to short-circuit this partnership.

The Division appreciates the opportunity to share these clarifications with the Committee. If there are any questions, please feel free to contact my office at your convenience. As always, I thank you for your partnership and consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jennifer L. Wilson".

Jennifer L. Wilson
Executive Director, Division of Human Resources

cc: The Honorable Members of the House Committee on Labor
Nicole McCarty, Chief Legal Counsel to the Speaker of the House
James DeCastro, Committee Clerk