

FACT SHEET: 2012 Paycheck Deception Measure

The latest version of Paycheck Deception, a ballot measure designed to severely restrict unions' role in politics, has qualified for the November 2012 ballot. This measure is even more destructive than previous Paycheck Deception measures we've defeated. It would impact EVERY union in California, while allowing corporations to have free rein to exert limitless influence on our political system.

THE FACTS:

PAYCHECK DECEPTION and UNIONS

- This measure goes straight at unions' ability to give their members a voice in politics. It prohibits **ANY contributions collected via payroll deduction (ie member dues) to ballot measure committees** as well as **independent expenditures** supporting or opposing state and local candidates and ballot measures.
- Further, the **measure prohibits ANY direct contributions by unions to state and local candidates** or the controlled committees of such candidates.
- Unlike Prop. 75, which targeted public sector unions, this **measure would apply to ALL public and private sector unions.**
- Members would be required to **provide annual written authorization** before unions can accept member funds received through means other than payroll deductions (which are banned outright) to ballot measures and independent expenditures in support or opposition to candidates. *

PAYCHECK DECEPTION and CORPORATIONS

- While the initiative blocks corporations from using payroll deduction for political spending, **corporations generally do not engage in payroll deduction**, so the provision would not apply to most businesses.
- Corporations would still be permitted make **UNLIMITED independent expenditures** in support or opposition to candidates. The same goes for **corporate contributions** to ballot measures.
- Corporations will retain the ability to use **corporate profits, rents, investment income, organizational dues** from other corporations and any other source of non-employee based revenues to support political spending.

Key differences on how the initiative favors corporations over labor unions:

	Candidate Contributions Prohibited	Independent Expenditures Prohibited	Ballot Measure Contributions Prohibited	Require Yearly Written Consent of Members to Use Funds for Politics
Labor Union General Funds	Yes	Yes, if payroll deduction used	Yes, if payroll deduction used	Yes
Labor Union PAC	Yes	Yes, if payroll deduction used	Yes, if payroll deduction used	Yes
Corporation General Funds	Yes	No	No	No
Corporation PAC	No	No	No	No

Key differences between the 2012 Paycheck Deception measure and previous measures:

	Prohibits Direct Contributions by Unions to Candidates	Prohibits All Deductions from Wages for Political Purposes	Applies to Public and Private Public Sector Unions
2011 Paycheck Deception Initiative	Yes	Yes	Yes
Prop. 226 (1998)	No	No But required annual written consent to use dues for political purposes	Yes
Prop. 75 (2005)	No	No But required annual written consent to use dues for political purposes	No