



AFSCME Legislative Agenda 2017

Supporting Local Control

Protect the Authority of Local Governments to Improve Wages and Benefits

AFSCME supports local control and we oppose Local Interference. Local Interference is a power grab by corporate special interests designed to strip local governments of their existing authority and force a far-reaching, one-size-fits-all mandate preventing local communities from improving working standards.

Local Interference bills are written by ALEC, a right-wing bill mill bankrolled by corporate special interests. It's a direct attack on our work to improve the economic security of working families.

The attack in Minnesota is designed to repeal the new Earned Sick and Safe Time ordinances in Minneapolis and St. Paul, and discourage Duluth and other communities from making improvements. It would also prohibit cities, counties and school districts from enacting higher minimum wages and better leave policies, or any required employer benefit higher than the state's minimum standards.

Local Interference would invalidate ordinances in one broad stroke, causing lawsuits and other costly consequences.

Local Interference is far-reaching. ALEC's language refers to "terms of employment" and could reverse virtually any workplace standard that protects workers, consumers and residents.

Local Interference would mandate what local governments can and can't do. Mayors, city councils, county commissioners and school boards are in the best position to know what their communities need.

Local Interference would bar local governments from making workplaces safer for workers, consumers and the public.

Action – Ask your legislators to:

- **Oppose all efforts to enact Local Interference laws.**
- **Support local governments that raise minimum wages and require paid parental leave and earned sick and safe time.**