February 9, 2017

The Honorable Jason Schultz (R, District 9), Chair

The Honorable Brad Zaun (R, District 20), Vice Chair

The Honorable Nate Boulton (D, District 16), Ranking Member

The Honorable Tony Bisignano (D, District 17)

The Honorable Michael Breitbach (R, District 28)

The Honorable Waylon Brown (R, District 26)

The Honorable Jake Chapman (R, District 10)

The Honorable Mark Costello (R, District 12)

The Honorable William A. Dotzler Jr. (D, District 31)

The Honorable Dennis Guth (R, District 4)

The Honorable Rich Taylor (D, District 42)

Subject: Senate File 213

Dear Legislators:

I am a constituent from 50317 and I am writing you today to urge you to vote **no** on Senate File 213. This legislation will further exacerbate the deficient working environments that public servants must endure in the name of cost cutting measures. I am a public servant, I am a voter and I am a tax payer. I am a lifelong Iowan, I have paid taxes in Iowa since my first job in a fast food restaurant at the age of fourteen, and I graduated from Iowa State and Drake Universities. I chose a career serving the most vulnerable among us and work hard every day to use my knowledge, skills, and abilities to assist Iowans and the State. I assure you that I am not a “spoiled” public servant. I work hard every day for the public without investment in my personal development or overtime pay for the long hours worked on behalf of the State. If you were to conduct a study of state employee wages and benefits compared to our private sector colleagues you will note the discrepancies in most work-life areas. The wages and benefits I receive as a public servant are an essential part of my family’s economic welfare and we would be harmed if I was to lose the healthcare benefits that I purchase through the state. I am a tax payer and I am a voter and I ask that you consider the following in your deliberations and vote no on moving forward with Senate File 213.

* Has a fiscal impact statement been completed for Senate File 213? What will it cost to unwind the current systems in place? What will replace those systems?
* Has a jobs impact been completed for Senate File 213? This will surely impact public sector jobs.
* How will workers be protected from discrimination and unequal treatment in the workplace if those protections are stripped with Senate File 213?
* How will public workers in all sectors resolve workplace grievances, if those provisions go away with Senate File 213?
* How will the state retain their intellectual capital when employees receive minimal or no benefits from working in the public sector compared to the same or similar opportunities in the private sector?
* What will employees benefits look like? Will I still have health insurance, dental insurance, and the vision insurance that my family depends on?
* Will employee wages be frozen or renegotiated when they already do not keep up with inflation? Will wages be cut?

I ask that you consider what the tax paying public servants want and vote no on Senate File 213.

Thank you for our time,

A humble public servant from 50317