Professional association or union membership is an important decision. You are entitled to make the decision about association membership for yourself with accurate information and without fear of reprisal by a union or employer.

The recent restoration of this right to all public educators in Janus v. AFSCME (2018) has led to some confusion, misinterpretation, and misinformation about what impact your membership decision can and cannot have.

This document provides general information and is not intended to offer legal advice about specific situations. If you believe your rights related to abstaining from union membership are being violated, please contact your professional association, a public interest law firm, or an attorney. If you believe your rights related to voluntary union membership are being violated, including discrimination against you by an employer, please contact your union attorney.

The complete version of this document is available at aaeteachers.org/rights including explanation of each right and listing relevant statutes and case law.