

# WHO IS "OPT OUT TODAY"?

- ▶ **OPT OUT TODAY IS A DECEPTIVE MARKETING CAMPAIGN** from the Freedom Foundation, a corporate front group that does not have your best interests in mind.
- ▶ **WHAT DO THEY REALLY CARE ABOUT?**
  - They call for "reform" that would result in layoffs, hiring freezes, and privatization of your public jobs.
  - They support coalitions lobbying to slash your retirement.
  - They justify these actions by claiming they only want to "protect" taxpayers from state employees' "handsome salaries and lavish benefits."

**Opt Out Today claims leaving PEF will save you money – but what are you trading for that? What does your union membership really mean for you and your family?**

- ▶ **SALARY BENEFITS OF UNION MEMBERSHIP**
  - Thanks to PEF negotiated contracts, a NYS employee making \$65,000 in 2014 saw an annual increase in salary of \$11,158 by 2022. Over eight years, they earned an additional \$49,052.
  - In addition, PEF members who work more than 5 years at top of grade earn a longevity payment of \$1,500 annually; 10 years at top of grade earns \$3,000 annually; and 15 years earns \$4,500.

**These increases are only possible because PEF members chose to bargain together as a union.**

**PEF WORKS FOR YOU EVERY DAY. WHAT DOES THE FREEDOM FOUNDATION DO?**



**New York State  
Public Employees Federation**  
PEF.org | #unionstrong

**UNION  
STRONG**

**It's during times of trouble when you find out who is on your side. Take a look at the chart below for a list of what PEF has done for you since *Janus* was decided by the Supreme Court in 2018 vs. the so-called "Freedom Foundation":**

<b>PEF Did It</b>	<b>"Freedom Foundation"</b>
Negotiated annual raises totaling 10%, plus compounding	Launched an all-out war against the rights of workers to unionize
Secured emergency telecommuting agreements to keep you and your family safe during COVID	Politicized the pandemic by trying to convince politicians to destroy unions
Distributed tens of thousands of masks to members on the frontlines	??????
Purchased hotel rooms for healthcare professionals who didn't want to bring the virus home to their families	??????
Reached 2.5x OT agreements with agencies who consistently mandate overtime	??????

▶ **Has the Freedom Foundation ever really done anything to make your work life better?**

