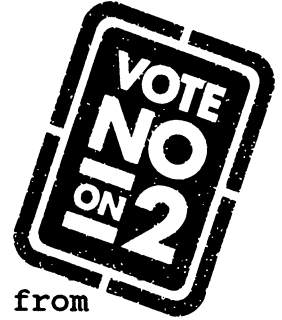


NOV OCT 16 PM 6:52  
CAMBRIDGE MA.



Dear Elected Leader:

I would like to respond to the letter you received from Paul K. Donohue, President of the Massachusetts Organization of State Engineers and Scientists (MOSES), dated August 30, 1990. Mr. Donohue has presented to you erroneous, misleading, and deceptive information regarding Question 2 on the November general election ballot. This ballot question will hurt tens of thousands of our neediest citizens, as well as the state economy, infrastructure and environment.

The initiative petition, 89-33, is titled: "Restricting use of state consultants." It was drafted and submitted by MOSES, a public employee association representing 3,000 state engineers and scientists. The purpose of the referendum, as stated in its preamble, is to "minimize the use of consultants by all departments and agencies within the Executive Branch of State government and by all Authorities established under state law."

But Mr. Donohue failed to tell you who these consultants are. They are 10,500 mental health workers; 12,000 people who provide services to the mentally retarded; 16,500 social services employees, including daycare providers; 5,000 people who work in public health; 1,500 youth services employees; and 4,500 visiting nurses and people who provide services to the elderly.

Consultants handle emergency clean-up of hazardous waste; they repair our roads and bridges; they handle emergency snow removal. The Central Artery/Tunnel Project alone, it is estimated, will include 15,000 specialized surveyors, engineers, designers, architects, and construction workers.

All these vital services, important jobs in a depressed economy, will immediately come to a grinding halt if Question 2 passes.

Imagine the havoc that would ensue while the state reviewed all contracts with consultants, and the cost of hiring and training replacement workers. Consider the impact not only of depriving those in need of essential services but also the economic disincentive to continue doing business in our state.

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Mr. Donohue, in his August 30th letter to you, as well as in public statements to the press, maintains that "the language previously passed by the legislature" is the language of Question 2. Nothing could be further from the truth, and

Mr. Donohue knows this.

The 1989 legislation to which he refers specifically stated that it was to replace M.G.L. c.29, s.29A, which generally regulates the non-human service consultants, while Question 2 as written does not provide that it is to replace any chapter or section of the General Laws.

Mr. Donohue states, "Contrary to the scare tactics being employed by our opponents, Question 2 does not affect human service providers." This is a lie and Mr. Donohue knows it. The language of the referendum states, "as used herein the word 'consultant' shall mean any person who, as a non-employee of the Commonwealth or an Authority, gives advice or service regarding matters in the field of his/her knowledge or training."

Mr. Donohue knows this. As a matter of fact, midway through the initiative petition process, he ran to the Attorney General's office with a perfecting amendment changing the definition of consultant to exclude human service providers or "07's." He was advised by the Attorney General's office that such wholesale changes were not permitted once a ballot question has been certified. Yet he continues to misrepresent the truth.

Question 2 would deal a devastating blow to the delivery of human services, the maintenance of safe roads and bridges, the treatment of hazardous waste, and the economy of our state. I urge you to seriously consider this referendum and hope that you will not be fooled by the deceitful tactics of the proponents of this referendum.

Sincerely,



John E. McManus  
Chairman

Vote No On Question 2 Committee

4.

S-1023

Comm. from John E. McManus, Chairman,  
Vote No on Question 2 Committee, transmitting  
additional information regarding Question  
2.

In City Council,

October 22, 1990

*Placed on file*