

Testimony of Dan Leahy

I am a retired member of the faculty from The Evergreen State College where I was the founder and Executive Director of Washington State's first Labor Education and Research Center from 1987 to 1995.

I'd like to make a brief comment with regard to the testimony by representatives of the Boeing corporation and others in the aerospace industry on the aerospace preference at the public hearing on September 5, 2019.

In all of their testimony with regard to the high wages, salaries and benefits enjoyed by workers in the aerospace industry here in Washington state, there was no mention of unions. Without the presence, organizational strength, collective bargaining skills and member education of both District Lodge 751 of the IAM&AW and SPEEA, there would be no high wages and benefits, nor an industry standard that other employers must meet to obtain qualified workers.

I hope the Citizens Commission will keep this fact in mind as it deliberates on which institution delivers the high wages and benefits in the State of Washington.

Thank you.