IPI fake facts 2013-2018:

IPI Lie: Just 13 cents of every dollar IEA spent was on representing members.

IEA Fact: 69.7 cents of every dollar is directly spent on representing members and how your dues dollars are spent is reported in detail to you every year. The remainder is spent on conferences, full-service printing, governance meetings, professional development and support services.

IPI Lie: IEA spent almost three times as much on its own officers and employees as it did on representing members.

IEA Fact: Because IEA spends almost 70 cents of every $1 in dues on direct representation of members, the above statement is impossible and entirely untrue.

IPI Lie: IEA sent twice as much money to affiliates in Chicago and Chicago-area suburbs than it did to affiliates south of I-80.

IEA Fact: Chicago educators belong to the Chicago Teachers Union, not the IEA. In addition, 69 percent of IEA members live north of Interstate 80 and 31 percent live south of Interstate 80.

IPI Lie: The National Education Association, IEA’s national affiliate, spent more than $23.4 million on airlines and other transportation expenses—for unspecified purposes.

IEA Fact: The IPI notes its figures are for five years. Rest assured, all NEA travel is vouchered and accounted for on NEA books and includes travel not only for NEA staff in all states, but NEA members in those states to travel to national meetings for programs and trainings.

IPI Lie: NEA spent $16.9 million on hotels—for unspecified purposes.

IEA Fact: As IPI notes, its figures cover 2013-2018. All NEA travel is vouchered and accounted for and includes staff and members from all state affiliates who travel to NEA meetings for various programs and for trainings.

IPI Lie: Opt out in August, and save hundreds of dollars each year.

IEA Fact: The IPI, opposes unions and public education. It was behind the Janus case, which sought to take away the rights of public employees to have a say in their workplace conditions. They want to silence the voice you use to advocate for your students, your schools and your community. They want to privatize public education. They want to slowly chip away at us—knowing the more people who drop their union membership, the less power the union has to bargain contracts that benefit educators’ working conditions and students’ learning conditions. Millionaires and billionaires fund the IPI. They want to protect their own corporate interests, not yours.

IPI Lie: Union alternatives will provide liability and job protection coverage at a fraction of the cost of union membership.

IEA Fact: Those groups will try to bill themselves as alternatives to the union. What they won’t tell you is they provide liability insurance, pared-down legal services—and pretty much nothing else. Little or low-quality professional development, no help on contract negotiations, no support on working conditions, no lobbying for public education and public school students and staff. One of these “union alternatives” touted by IPI has fewer than 10,000 members in the entire country. IEA has more than 130,000 in Illinois alone. To have power, you need people. IEA has both. We are truly stronger when we are united.

Visit: www.proudieamember.org to find out more about the IPI and its work to take rights away from Illinois educators.