

CS/CS/HB 549

2015

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to membership associations; creating  
3 s. 617.221, F.S.; defining the term "membership  
4 association"; requiring a membership association to  
5 file an annual report with the Legislature; specifying  
6 required elements of the report; prohibiting a  
7 membership association from expending moneys received  
8 from public funds on litigation against the state;  
9 providing an effective date.

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11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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13 Section 1. Section 617.221, Florida Statutes, is created  
14 to read:

15 617.221 Membership associations; reporting requirements;  
16 restriction on use of funds.—

17 (1) As used in this section, the term "membership  
18 association" means a corporation not for profit, including a  
19 department or division of such corporation, the majority of  
20 whose board members are constitutional officers, that operates,  
21 controls, and supervises public entities that receive annual  
22 state appropriations through a statutorily defined formulaic  
23 allocation that is funded and prescribed annually in the General  
24 Appropriations Act or the substantive bill implementing the  
25 annual appropriations act. The term does not include a labor  
26 organization as defined in s. 447.02 or an entity funded through

27 the Justice Administrative Commission.

28 (2) A membership association shall file a report with the  
29 President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of  
30 Representatives by January 1 of each year. The report must  
31 provide:

32 (a) The name and address of the membership association and  
33 any parent membership association or any state, national, or  
34 international membership association with which it is  
35 affiliated.

36 (b) The names, titles, telephone numbers, and addresses of  
37 the principal officers and all representatives of the membership  
38 association.

39 (c) The amount of the fee required to become a member of  
40 the membership association, if any, and the annual dues each  
41 member must pay.

42 (d) The current annual financial statements of the  
43 membership association, as described in s. 617.1605.

44 (e) A copy of the current constitution and bylaws of the  
45 membership association.

46 (f) A description of the assets and liabilities of the  
47 membership association at the beginning and end of the preceding  
48 fiscal year.

49 (g) A description of the salary, allowances, and other  
50 direct or indirect disbursements, including reimbursed expenses,  
51 to each officer and to each employee who, during the preceding  
52 fiscal year, received more than \$10,000 in the aggregate from

53 the membership association and any other state, national, or  
54 international membership association affiliated with the  
55 membership association.

56 (h) The annual amount of the following benefit packages  
57 paid to each of the principal officers of the membership  
58 association:

59 1. Health, major medical, vision, dental, and life  
60 insurance.

61 2. Retirement plans.

62 3. Automobile allowances.

63 (i) The per-member amount of annual dues sent from the  
64 membership association to each state, national, or international  
65 affiliate.

66 (j) The total amount of direct or indirect disbursements  
67 for lobbying activity at the federal, state, or local level  
68 incurred by the membership association, listed by the full name  
69 and address of each person who received a disbursement.

70 (k) The total amount of direct or indirect disbursements  
71 for litigation expenses incurred by the membership association,  
72 listed by case citation.

73 (3) A membership association may not expend moneys  
74 received from public funds, as defined in s. 215.85(3), on  
75 litigation against the state.

76 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.