



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 requiring certain membership association dues to be
10 assessed for each specified public officer; providing
11 conditions for nonpayment of dues; providing an
12 effective date.

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

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16 Section 1. Section 617.221, Florida Statutes, is created
17 to read:

18 617.221 Membership associations; reporting requirements;
19 restriction on use of funds.—

20 (1) As used in this section, the term "membership
21 association" means a corporation not for profit, including a
22 department or division of such corporation, the majority of
23 whose board members are constitutional officers that, pursuant
24 to s. 1001.32(2), operate, control, and supervise public
25 entities that receive annual state appropriations through a
26 statutorily defined formulaic allocation that is funded and



27 prescribed annually in the General Appropriations Act or the
28 substantive bill implementing the annual appropriations act. The
29 term does not include a labor organization as defined in s.
30 447.02 or an entity funded through the Justice Administrative
31 Commission.

32 (2) A membership association shall file a report with the
33 President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
34 Representatives by January 1 of each year. The report must
35 provide:

36 (a) The name and address of the membership association and
37 any parent membership association or any state, national, or
38 international membership association with which it is
39 affiliated.

40 (b) The names, titles, telephone numbers, and addresses of
41 the principal officers and all representatives of the membership
42 association.

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

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

48 (e) A copy of the current constitution and bylaws of the
49 membership association.

50 (f) A description of the assets and liabilities of the
51 membership association at the beginning and end of the preceding
52 fiscal year.



53 (g) A description of the salary, allowances, and other
54 direct or indirect disbursements, including reimbursed expenses,
55 to each officer and to each employee who, during the preceding
56 fiscal year, received more than \$10,000 in the aggregate from
57 the membership association and any other state, national, or
58 international membership association affiliated with the
59 membership association.

60 (h) The annual amount of the following benefit packages
61 paid to each of the principal officers of the membership
62 association:

63 1. Health, major medical, vision, dental, and life
64 insurance.

65 2. Retirement plans.

66 3. Automobile allowances.

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

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

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

77 (3) A membership association may not expend moneys
78 received from public funds, as defined in s. 215.85(3), on



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79 | litigation against the state.

80 | (4) Dues paid to a membership association, as defined in
81 | subsection (1), which are paid with public funds, as defined in
82 | s. 215.85(3), shall be assessed for each elected or appointed
83 | public officer. However, if a public officer elects not to join
84 | the membership association, the dues assessed for that public
85 | officer shall not be paid to the membership association.

86 | Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.