

2011 -- S 0409

=====
LC01614
=====

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

A N A C T

RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS – PUBLIC EMPLOYEE
EMPOWERMENT

Introduced By: Senator Dawson T. Hodgson

Date Introduced: March 10, 2011

Referred To: Senate Labor

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 28-7 of the General Laws entitled "Labor Relations Act" is hereby
2 amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **28-7-12.1. Public employee union dues voluntary.** – No public employee shall be
4 compelled to pay dues or service charges to any labor or employee organization as a condition of
5 employment.

6 SECTION 2. Section 36-11-2 of the General Laws in Chapter 36-11 entitled
7 "Organization of State Employees" is hereby amended to read as follows:

8 **36-11-2. Discrimination because of membership in employee organization**
9 **prohibited.** -- There shall be no discrimination against any state employee because the employee
10 has formed, joined, or chosen to be represented by any labor organization or employee
11 organization, or declined same. Membership in any employee organization may be determined by
12 each individual employee; ~~provided, however, that in areas where employees have selected an~~
13 ~~exclusive bargaining representative organization, all nonmembers of the exclusive bargaining~~
14 ~~representative organization shall pay to the exclusive employee organization a service charge as a~~
15 ~~contribution toward the negotiation and administration of any collective bargaining agreement in~~
16 ~~an amount equal to the regular biweekly membership dues of the organization, with the state~~
17 ~~controller being hereby directed upon certification of the exclusive bargaining organization to~~
18 ~~deduct biweekly from the employee's salary the above amount and remit the amount to the~~

1 ~~treasurer of the exclusive bargaining organization~~. Supervisory employees shall not endorse any
2 particular employee organization or, by reason of membership or lack of membership in any
3 organization, show prejudice or discriminate toward any individual employee.

4 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage.

=====
LC01614
=====

EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

A N A C T
RELATING TO LABOR AND LABOR RELATIONS – PUBLIC EMPLOYEE
EMPOWERMENT

- 1 This act would make union membership and payment of dues a voluntary matter for
2 public employees.
3 This act would take effect upon passage.

=====
LC01614
=====