

By the Committee on Community Affairs; and Senator Stargel

578-02391-15

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to membership associations that  
3           receive public funds; creating s. 617.221, F.S.;  
4           defining the term "membership association"; requiring  
5           a membership association that receives a specified  
6           percentage of its budget from public funds to file an  
7           annual report with the Legislature; requiring that  
8           such a report provide specified information;  
9           prohibiting a membership association from expending  
10          public funds on litigation against the state;  
11          providing an effective date.

12  
13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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

17           617.221 Membership associations that receive public funds;  
18 reporting requirements; restriction on use of funds.-

19           (1) As used in this section, the term "membership  
20 association" means a corporation not for profit, including a  
21 department or division of such corporation, whose membership  
22 includes a majority of elected or appointed public officers, as  
23 defined in s. 112.313(1), and which receives 25 percent or more  
24 of its annual revenue from public funds, as defined in s.  
25 215.85(3). The term does not include a labor organization as  
26 defined in s. 447.02.

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

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30 include:

31 (a) The name and address of the membership association and  
32 any parent membership association or any state, national, or  
33 international membership association affiliate.

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

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

40 (d) The latest annual financial statements of the  
41 membership association as described in s. 617.1605.

42 (e) A copy of the current constitution and bylaws of the  
43 membership association.

44 (f) The assets and liabilities of the membership  
45 association at the beginning and end of the preceding fiscal  
46 year.

47 (g) The salary, allowances, and other direct or indirect  
48 disbursements, including reimbursed expenses, to each officer  
49 and to each employee who, during the preceding fiscal year,  
50 received more than \$10,000 total from the membership association  
51 and any other state, national, or international membership  
52 association affiliate.

53 (h) The annual dollar amount of the following benefit  
54 packages paid to each of the principal officers of the  
55 membership association:

56 1. Health, major medical, vision, dental, and life  
57 insurance.

58 2. Retirement plans.

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59       3. Automobile allowances.

60       (i) The amount of annual dues for each member sent from the  
61 membership association to each state, national, or international  
62 affiliate.

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

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

70       (3) A membership association may not expend moneys received  
71 from public funds on litigation against the state.

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