2015 CS/HB 549

1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to membership associations that 3 4 5 6 7 8

receive public funds; creating s. 617.221, F.S.; providing a definition; requiring a membership association that receives a specified percentage of its budget from public funds to file an annual report with the Legislature; specifying required elements of the report; prohibiting a membership association from expending public funds on litigation against the state; providing an effective date.

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

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

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

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

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(2) A membership association shall file a report with the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of

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Representatives by January 1 of each year. The report must provide:

- (a) The name and address of the membership association and any parent membership association or any state, national, or international membership association with which it is affiliated.
- (b) The names, titles, telephone numbers, and addresses of the principal officers and all representatives of the membership association.
- (c) The amount of the fee required to become a member of the membership association, if any, and the annual dues each member must pay.
- (d) The current annual financial statements of the membership association, as described in s. 617.1605.
- (e) A copy of the current constitution and bylaws of the membership association.
- (f) A description of the assets and liabilities of the membership association at the beginning and end of the preceding fiscal year.
- (g) A description of the salary, allowances, and other direct or indirect disbursements, including reimbursed expenses, to each officer and to each employee who, during the preceding fiscal year, received more than \$10,000 in the aggregate from the membership association and any other state, national, or international membership association affiliated with the membership association.

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	(h)	) The	e ai	nnual	Lamount	of	the	fol	lowi	ing	benefit	packag	ges
paid	to	each	of	the	princip	al	offic	cers	of	the	members	ship	
assoc	ciat	tion:											

- 1. Health, major medical, vision, dental, and life insurance.
  - 2. Retirement plans.

- 3. Automobile allowances.
- (i) The per-member amount of annual dues sent from the membership association to each state, national, or international affiliate.
- (j) The total amount of direct or indirect disbursements for lobbying activity at the federal, state, or local level incurred by the membership association, listed by the full name and address of each person who received a disbursement.
- (k) The total amount of direct or indirect disbursements for litigation expenses incurred by the membership association, listed by case citation.
- (3) A membership association may not expend moneys received from public funds on litigation against the state.

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