

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 report requirements; prohibiting a membership
 7 association from expending public funds on litigation
 8 against the state; requiring the Auditor General to
 9 conduct an annual financial and operational audit of
 10 membership associations; providing an effective date.

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

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

16 617.221 Membership associations; reporting requirements;
 17 restriction on use of funds.-

18 (1) As used in this section, the term "membership
 19 association" means a corporation not for profit, including a
 20 department or division of such corporation, the majority of the
 21 board members of which are constitutional officers who, pursuant
 22 to s. 1001.32(2) and (3), operate, control, and supervise public
 23 entities that receive annual state appropriations through a
 24 statutorily defined formulaic allocation that is funded and
 25 prescribed annually in the General Appropriations Act or the
 26 substantive bill implementing the annual appropriations act. The

27 term does not include a labor organization as defined in s.
28 447.02 or an entity funded through the Justice Administrative
29 Commission.

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

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

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

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

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

46 (e) A copy of the current constitution and bylaws of the
47 membership association.

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

51 (g) A description of the salary, allowances, and other
52 direct or indirect disbursements, including reimbursed expenses,

53 to each officer and to each employee who, during the preceding
54 fiscal year, received more than \$10,000 in the aggregate from
55 the membership association and any other state, national, or
56 international membership association affiliated with the
57 membership association.

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

61 1. Health, major medical, vision, dental, and life
62 insurance.

63 2. Retirement plans.

64 3. Automobile allowances.

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

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

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

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

78 (4) Dues paid to a membership association, which are paid

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79 with public funds, shall be assessed for each elected or
80 appointed public officer. If a public officer elects not to join
81 the membership association, the dues assessed to such public
82 officer may not be paid to the membership association.

83 (5) The Auditor General shall conduct an annual financial
84 and operational audit of the accounts and records of each
85 membership association.

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