



REFRESHER: HB 25 LABOR ORGANIZATIONS

BACKGROUND

Each year, public employee unions must renew their registration to the Public Employees Relations Commission to continue representing their workers. Renewal applications require a financial report, which includes information on union salaries, receipts, and other information. Renewal applications do not currently require unions to include a roster of members who are eligible to be represented by the union and those who do and do not pay dues to the union. HB 25 amends the current labor organization recertification process to increase transparency and accountability.

Last session's Labor Organization bill, HB 11, passed the House, but died in the Senate. It was reintroduced with nearly identical language by Rep. Plakon and was reported favorably by the Government Accountability Committee on December 5, 2017.

The bottom line: HB 25 reforms the annual public employee union recertification process to increase transparency and hold unions accountable to the workers they represent.

BILL HIGHLIGHTS

- The bill increases public employee union transparency by requiring each union to include the following information in its annual financial report:
 - The number of employees in the bargaining unit who are eligible for representation by the employee organization; and
 - The number of employees who are represented by the organization, specifying the number of members who do and do not pay dues.
- If 50 percent or more of eligible union members do not pay dues, the union must reapply for certification.
- A union that does not comply with these requirements will have its certification revoked.
- Unions that represent law enforcement officers, firefighters, and corrections officers are *not included* in these changes, except that they must comply with the reporting requirement.
- The bill appropriates \$300,000 to the Public Employees Relations Commission and authorizes two full-time positions to implement the new requirements set forth in the legislation.