

1 State of Arkansas
2 95th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2025
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1506

5 By: Representative Andrews
6 By: Senator M. McKee
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING PUBLIC OFFICERS
10 AND EMPLOYEES; TO PROHIBIT A PUBLIC EMPLOYER FROM
11 DEDUCTING LABOR ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP DUES FROM THE
12 COMPENSATION OF A PUBLIC EMPLOYEE; AND FOR OTHER
13 PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

15 TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING PUBLIC
16 OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES; AND TO PROHIBIT
17 A PUBLIC EMPLOYER FROM DEDUCTING LABOR
18 ORGANIZATION MEMBERSHIP DUES FROM THE
19 COMPENSATION OF A PUBLIC EMPLOYEE.
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23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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25 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 21, Chapter 1, Subchapter 1, is amended
26 to add an additional section to read as follows:

27 21-1-107. Deduction of Labor Organization Membership Fees Prohibited –
28 Definitions.

29 (a) As used in this subchapter:

30 (1)(A) "Labor organization" means an organization in which
31 public employees may participate that exists for the purpose of dealing with
32 public employers concerning grievances, labor disputes, wages, rates of pay,
33 hours of employment, or conditions of work.

34 (B) "Labor organization" includes without limitation a:

35 (i) Labor union exempt from taxation under 26 U.S.C.
36 § 501(c)(5) as it existed on January 1, 2025; or



1 (ii) A professional employee association exempt from
 2 taxation under 26 U.S.C. § 501(c)(6) as it existed on January 1, 2025;

3 (2) "Public employee" means a person who performs a full-time or
 4 part-time service for wages, salary, or other remuneration for a public
 5 employer;

6 (3) "Public employer" means:

7 (A) An agency, department, board, commission, division,
 8 office, bureau, council, authority, or other instrumentality of the State of
 9 Arkansas, including the offices of the various Arkansas elected
 10 constitutional officers and the General Assembly and its agencies, bureaus,
 11 and divisions;

12 (B) A state-supported college, university, technical
 13 college, community college, or other institution of higher education or a
 14 department, division, or agency of a state institution of higher education;

15 (C) The Supreme Court, the Court of Appeals, the
 16 Administrative Office of the Courts, circuit courts, district courts, and
 17 prosecuting attorneys' offices; and

18 (D) An office, department, commission, council, agency,
 19 board, bureau, committee, corporation, or other instrumentality of a county
 20 government or a municipality, a county subordinate service district, a
 21 municipally owned utility, or a regional or joint governing body of one (1)
 22 or more counties or municipalities; and

23 (4)(A) "Public safety employee" means a public employee who is:

24 (i) Engaged in official duty with the power to
 25 arrest for a criminal violation; or

26 (ii) Employed for the primary purpose of:

27 (a) Enforcing the incarceration or supervised
 28 release of a criminal offender;

29 (b) Preventing or suppressing fire;

30 (c) Providing emergency medical response,
 31 treatment, or transportation;

32 (d) Defending the state; or

33 (e) Performing other emergency services
 34 necessary for the protection of life or property.

35 (B) "Public safety employee" includes a public employee
 36 employed to support or direct the functions of public safety employees.

1 (b)(1) Except as provided under subdivision (b)(2) of this section, a
2 public employer shall not deduct from the compensation of a public employee a
3 due, fee, or contribution to a labor organization.

4 (2) Subdivision (b)(1) of this section does not apply to a
5 public safety employee.

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