

Status Update: Anti-Frontline Worker Bills, etc.

March 11, 2021

HB 947/SB 78 – affects all unions

- Employer may not deduct dues until it confirms with the employee that he/she wants to join the union.
- Employee must reauthorize union membership every time a new contract is negotiated.
- Has passed two Senate committees and one House committee on party line votes, one committee stop in each chamber left before the full House and Senate can vote on it.
- In committee discussions, Republican members are talking about carving out police/fire unions (*a very bad sign*).

HB 835/SB 1014 – affects UFF

- Recent amendment to HB 835 requires faculty/GA unions to report 50% membership to maintain certification, authorizes PERC to investigate union's claims that it has met 50% threshold, authorizes College/University to challenge accuracy of union's claims, provides for revocation of certification as an outcome of the investigation.
- Lots of even nastier provisions for K-12 teacher unions (loss of dues deduction, etc.)
- HB 835 has passed its first House committee (on a party line vote), SB 1014 has not been placed on a Senate committee agenda yet.

Other bills of interest

- SB 86 – Makes Bright Futures contingent on whether degree “leads directly to employment,” as determined by the Governor; “on hold.”
- HB 997/SB 220 – Presidential search exemption from Sunshine laws; has passed two of three Senate committees.
- HB 1047/SB 1110 – prohibits institutions and their DSOs from entering into, and requires withdrawal from (by 1/1/22), any “agreement with a communist regime”; in committees now.
- HB 281/SB 52 – Authorizes University BOTs to implement performance bonuses for University employees; has passed two Senate committees, being heard by its final committee at 11:30am.
- HB 553/SB 176 – Fee waiver for graduate assistants; has been assigned to committees but no votes yet.

Other bills of interest (continued)

- HB 233/SB 264 – Mandatory intellectual diversity surveys, etc.; has passed two Senate committees and a committee substitute is on the house floor.
- HB 6001 – Guns on campus; not expected to move.
- SB 48 – Creates “education savings accounts” for parents who take their students out of public schools; no house companion but has passed all Senate committees and is ready to hit the floor.
- SB 84 – Eliminates the pension option of FRS beginning 7/1/22; no house companion but has passed one of two Senate committees.
- HB 1/SB 484 – Enables criminalization of many protest-related activities, reduces civil/criminal liability for injuring protestors; has passed two house committees, high priority for Governor.