

HB 492 -- Dues and Political Contribution Withholding by Public Employee Labor Unions

Sponsor: Franz

This bill requires a written authorization by a public employee before a labor union can withhold any dues, fees, or political contribution from the employee's paycheck. The employee must authorize the amount to be withheld on a form as specified in the bill and indicate whether any amount authorized may be used for a political contribution. The employee may also indicate which political committee he or she wants to receive the contribution. An authorization for deductions in earnings is voluntary and cannot in any way affect a person's employment. The labor union must keep records of all authorizations and submit them to the Labor and Industrial Relations Commission within the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. For administration expenses, the Office of Administration will deduct a fee of \$8 or 2% of the authorized deduction, whichever is greater, from the employee's withheld amount, but the employee must be deemed to have paid to the labor union the full authorized amount. The labor union cannot attempt to recoup the administrative fee from the employee in any manner.