



SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA BILL SUMMARY

Senate Bill 166 Printer's No. 139

Prime Sponsor: Senator Eichelberger
Committee: State Government

SYNOPSIS:

Enacts the Protection of Public Employee Wages Act (Act), which would prohibit using government to collect money for political purposes from the paychecks of public employees.

SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 166 would prohibit any outside organization from using the Commonwealth, or any of its political subdivisions, as an agent to collect money to be used for political purposes. Political contributions are defined in the act generally as campaign contributions and lobbying as defined in the Election Code and Title 65. The legislation would not affect any existing collective bargaining agreements, however, no collective bargaining agreement entered into subsequent to the effective date of this Act shall contain provisions providing for such deductions. The legislation does not preclude an employee organization from collecting the funds it needs to represent employees in labor matters, as represented by Pennsylvania's "fair share" law. The legislation does not preclude any organization from raising money for political purposes. Additionally, the bill recognizes that a public employee may certainly authorize a donation to charity.

Effective Date: Section 4 of the Bill: 60 Days, with the remainder effective immediately.

AMENDMENT A00028

Clarifies the term "legislative purpose."

BILL HISTORY:

Referred to State Government, Jan. 20, 2017. Similar legislation (SB501) was introduced and passed by the Senate during the 2015-2016 legislative session.

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