First Regular Session Sixty-ninth General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 13-0542.01 Kristen Forrestal x4217

SENATE BILL 13-024

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Hill,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

Senate Committees

101

102

House Committees

Business, Labor, & Technology State, Veterans, & Military Affairs

A BILL FOR AN ACT

CONCERNING THE PROHIBITION OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST EMPLOYEES BASED ON LABOR UNION PARTICIPATION.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries.)

The bill prohibits an employer from requiring any person, as a condition of employment, to become or remain a member of a labor organization or to pay dues, fees, or other assessments to a labor organization or to a charity organization or other third party in lieu of the labor organization. Any agreement that violates these prohibitions or the

rights of an employee is void.

The bill creates civil and criminal penalties for violatons and authorizes the attorney general and the district attorney in each judicial district to investigate alleged violations and take action against a person believed to be in violation. The bill states that all-union agreements are unfair labor practices.

1	Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:
2	SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add article 3.3 to title
3	8 as follows:
4	ARTICLE 3.3
5	Membership in Labor Organizations
6	8-3.3-101. Definitions. As used in this article, unless the
7	CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:
8	(1) "EMPLOYER" MEANS A PERSON, FIRM, ASSOCIATION,
9	CORPORATION, PUBLIC ENTITY, PUBLIC SCHOOL, OR PUBLIC COLLEGE,
10	UNIVERSITY, INSTITUTION, OR EDUCATION AGENCY THAT EMPLOYS A
11	PERSON IN THIS STATE.
12	(2) "LABOR ORGANIZATION" MEANS ANY ORGANIZATION, AGENCY,
13	EMPLOYEE REPRESENTATION COMMITTEE, OR UNION THAT EXISTS FOR THE
14	PURPOSE, IN WHOLE OR IN PART, OF DEALING WITH EMPLOYERS
15	CONCERNING WAGES, RATES OF PAY, HOURS OF WORK, OTHER CONDITIONS
16	OF EMPLOYMENT, OR OTHER FORMS OF COMPENSATION.
17	8-3.3-102. Prohibited activities. (1) On and after July 1,
18	2013, AN EMPLOYER SHALL NOT REQUIRE ANY PERSON, AS A CONDITION OF
19	EMPLOYMENT OR THE CONTINUATION OF EMPLOYMENT, TO:
20	(a) BECOME OR REMAIN A MEMBER OF A LABOR ORGANIZATION;
21	(b) PAY DUES, FEES, ASSESSMENTS, OR OTHER SUMS OF MONEY TO
22	A LABOR ORGANIZATION: OR

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1	(c) Pay to a charity or other third party an amount
2	EQUIVALENT TO, OR A PRO RATA PORTION OF, DUES, FEES, ASSESSMENTS,
3	OR OTHER CHARGES PROHIBITED IN PARAGRAPH (b) OF THIS SUBSECTION
4	(1), IN LIEU OF REQUIRING PAYMENT TO A LABOR ORGANIZATION.
5	8-3.3-103. Void agreements. A WRITTEN OR ORAL AGREEMENT,
6	UNDERSTANDING, OR PRACTICE, IMPLIED OR EXPRESSED, BETWEEN A
7	LABOR ORGANIZATION AND EMPLOYER THAT VIOLATES THE RIGHTS OF
8	EMPLOYEES AS GUARANTEED BY THIS ARTICLE IS VOID.
9	8-3.3-104. Penalty. Any person who directly or indirectly
10	VIOLATES ANY PROVISION OF THIS ARTICLE IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR
11	AND, UPON CONVICTION, SHALL BE PUNISHED BY A FINE OF NOT MORE
12	THAN ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS, IMPRISONMENT IN THE COUNTY JAIL FOR
13	NOT MORE THAN NINETY DAYS, OR BOTH A FINE AND IMPRISONMENT FOR
14	EACH OFFENSE.
15	8-3.3-105. Civil remedies. (1) ANY PERSON INJURED AS A RESULT
16	OF A VIOLATION OR THREATENED VIOLATION OF THIS ARTICLE MAY BRING
17	SUIT IN A COURT OF COMPETENT JURISDICTION TO RECOVER ALL DAMAGES,
18	INCLUDING COSTS AND REASONABLE ATTORNEY FEES, RESULTING FROM
19	THE VIOLATION OR THREATENED VIOLATION.
20	(2) THE REMEDIES PROVIDED BY THIS SECTION ARE INDEPENDENT
21	OF, AND IN ADDITION TO, ANY OTHER PENALTY OR REMEDY ESTABLISHED
22	BY THIS ARTICLE.
23	8-3.3-106. Investigation of complaints - prosecution of
24	violations. The ATTORNEY GENERAL OR THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY IN EACH
25	JUDICIAL DISTRICT SHALL INVESTIGATE A COMPLAINT OF A VIOLATION OR
26	THREATENED VIOLATION OF THIS ARTICLE, PROSECUTE ANY PERSON
27	VIOLATING THIS ARTICLE, AND TAKE ACTIONS NECESSARY TO ENSURE

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1	EFFECTIVE ENFORCEMENT OF THIS ARTICLE.
2	8-3.3-107. Applicability of article - exceptions. (1) This
3	ARTICLE DOES NOT APPLY:
4	(a) TO EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES COVERED BY THE FEDERAL
5	"Railway Labor Act", 45 U.S.C. sec. 151 et seq.;
6	(b) TO FEDERAL EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES;
7	(c) To employers and employees in exclusive federal
8	ENCLAVES; OR
9	(d) Where it would conflict with or be preempted by
10	FEDERAL LAW.
11	8-3.3-108. Severability. If any provision of this article or
12	THE APPLICATION OF THIS ARTICLE TO ANY PERSON OR CIRCUMSTANCE IS
13	HELD INVALID, THE OTHER PROVISIONS OR APPLICATIONS OF THIS ARTICLE
14	THAT CAN BE GIVEN EFFECT WITHOUT THE INVALID PROVISION OR
15	APPLICATION ARE SEVERABLE.
16	SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-3-108, amend (1)
17	(c) and (1) (e) as follows:
18	8-3-108. What are unfair labor practices. (1) It is an unfair
19	labor practice for an employer, individually or in concert with others, to:
20	(c) (1) Encourage or discourage membership in any labor
21	organization, employee agency, committee, association, or representation
22	plan by discrimination in regard to hiring, tenure, or other terms or
23	conditions of employment; except that an employer shall not be
24	prohibited from entering into an all-union agreement with the
25	representatives of his employees in a collective bargaining unit if such
26	all-union agreement is approved by the affirmative vote of at least a
27	majority of all the employees eligible to vote or three-quarters or more of

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the employees who actually voted, whichever is greater, by secret ballot in favor of such all-union agreement in an election provided for in this paragraph (c) conducted under the supervision of the director. Where the collective bargaining unit involved is currently recognized under sections 8 or 9 of the "National Labor Relations Act", as amended, (49 Stat. 449; 61 Stat. 136), or where the collective bargaining unit involved is currently recognized by reason of certification by the director or the national labor relations board, or where such units were so recognized at the time of an election provided for in this paragraph (c), there is and shall be deemed to have been no need for a certification election as a precedent to an election provided for in this paragraph (c) in such collective bargaining unit on the issue of an all-union agreement. The employees in such a recognized or certified unit within this state shall be the only employees eligible to vote in an election provided for in this paragraph (c) held in such unit.

(II) (A) Any agreement as defined in section 8-3-104 (1) between an employer and a labor organization in existence on June 29, 1977, which has not been voted upon by the employees covered by it may, by written mutual agreement of such employer and labor organization, be ratified and upon such ratification shall be filed with the director. Any agreement as defined in section 8-3-104 (1) between an employer and a labor organization in existence on June 29, 1977, which has not been ratified and filed, as provided in this subparagraph (II), shall not be legal, valid, or enforceable during the remaining term of that labor contract unless and until either the employer, the labor organization, or at least twenty percent of the employees covered by such agreement file a petition upon forms provided by the division, demanding an election submitting

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the question of the all-union agreement to the employees covered by such agreement and said agreement is approved by the affirmative vote of at least a majority of all the employees eligible to vote or three-quarters or more of the employees who actually voted, whichever is greater, by secret ballot in favor of such all-union agreement in an election provided for in this paragraph (c) conducted under the supervision of the director.

(B) Upon filing of such instrument of ratification with the director, the director shall certify that such agreement complies with the provisions of section 8-3-104 (1) notwithstanding the absence of any other election requirements of this article, and by virtue of such ratification and certification, such agreement shall be deemed legal, valid, and enforceable to the extent permitted under the provisions of this article, subject to the provisions of sub-subparagraph (D) of this subparagraph (II).

(C) Within two weeks after the certification by the director provided for in sub-subparagraph (B) of this subparagraph (II), the employer which is a party to such agreement shall post or give written notice to all employees covered by such agreement on the date of ratification of the fact that the agreement has been ratified and certified pursuant to the provisions of this subparagraph (II) and of the right of such employees to file a petition demanding an election as provided in sub-subparagraph (D) of this subparagraph (II). Proof of giving of notice shall be filed with the director within twenty days after the certification by the director provided for in sub-subparagraph (B) of this subparagraph (II).

(D) Within forty-five days after the certification by the director provided for in sub-subparagraph (B) of this subparagraph (II) twenty

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percent of the employees covered by such agreement may file a petition, upon forms provided by the division, demanding an election submitting the question of ratification of such agreement to the employees covered by such agreement. If ratification of the agreement is approved by the affirmative vote of at least a majority of all the employees eligible to vote or three-quarters or more of the employees who actually voted, whichever is greater, in said election, the agreement shall be conclusively deemed ratified. Such election shall be held as promptly as possible following the filing of the petition. In the event that a certified contract expires or is terminated prior to the conducting of such an election, such certification shall be applicable to any subsequent agreement between the same parties until such election may be held.

- (III) The director shall declare any such all-union agreement terminated whenever:
- (A) He finds that the labor organization involved unreasonably has refused to receive as a member any employee of such employer, and any person interested may come before the director, as provided in section 8-3-110, and ask the performance of this duty; or
- (B) The employer or twenty percent of the employees covered by such agreement file a petition with the director on forms provided by the division seeking to revoke such all-union agreement and, in an election conducted under the supervision of the director, there is not an affirmative vote of at least a majority of all the employees eligible to vote or three-quarters or more of the employees who actually voted, whichever is greater, in such election by secret ballot in favor of such all-union agreement. Such petition may only be filed within a time period between one hundred twenty and one hundred five days prior to the end of the

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collective bargaining agreement or prior to a triennial anniversary of the date of such agreement, and the division must complete said election within sixty days prior to the termination or triennial anniversary of said collective bargaining agreement. The director may conduct an election within a collective bargaining unit no more often than once during the term of any collective bargaining agreement or once every three years in the case of agreements for a period longer than three years.

(IV) The director shall provide a means by which employees may submit confidential petitions for an election under this paragraph (c), a means for verifying the employment, status, and eligibility of petitioners, and a means for determining the sufficiency of such petitions with respect to the twenty percent signature requirement, all of which shall be accomplished without disclosing the identification of such petitioners, except as allowed under subparagraph (V) of this paragraph (c). This duty shall apply to petitions filed pursuant to subparagraph (II) (A), (II) (D), or (III) (B) of this paragraph (c).

(V) No officer or employee of the division shall disclose the names of any signers to a petition or disclose how any person voted in an election to any person outside the division except pursuant to a court order or subpoena issued by a governmental authority or a court, and any such officer or employee who violates such nondisclosure provisions or who refuses to call an election pursuant to this paragraph (c) or prevents or conspires to prevent such call of an election commits a class 2 misdemeanor and shall be punished as provided in section 18-1.3-501, C.R.S.

(e) Enter into an all-union agreement; except in the manner provided in paragraph (c) of this subsection (1);

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1	SECTION 3. In Colorado Revised Statutes, 8-3-109, amend (1);
2	and repeal (3) as follows:
3	8-3-109. What are not unfair labor practices. (1) It is not an
4	unfair labor practice for any employer to refuse to grant a closed shop or
5	all-union agreement. or to accede to any proposal therefor as provided in
6	this article.
7	(3) It shall not be an unfair labor practice for an employer engaged
8	primarily in the building and construction industry to enter into an
9	all-union agreement, except an agreement providing for an agency shop
10	or modified agency shop, with a labor organization, which agreement is
11	limited in its coverage to employees who, upon their employment, will be
12	engaged in the building and construction industry, if a copy of such
13	agreement is filed with the director and certified by him as provided in
14	section 8-3-108 (1) (c) (II) (B). Such agreement may be ratified as
15	provided in section 8-3-108 (1) (c) (II) (C) or terminated by the director
16	as provided in section 8-3-108 (1) (c) (III).
17	SECTION 4. Effective date. This act takes effect July 1, 2013.
18	SECTION 5. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds,
19	determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate
20	preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

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