ENGROSSED HOUSE
BILL NO. 2621

By: Paulk of the House

and

Dickerson of the Senate

An Act relating to state employees; enacting the State Employees Fair Labor Relations Act; making findings; prohibiting state agencies from barring employees or representatives of job-related organizations from distributing certain materials; authorizing access to certain meeting rooms and meetings for certain purposes; providing certain exceptions; providing for construction of act; providing for promulgation of certain rules; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 842.1 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

This act shall be known and may be cited as the "State Employees Fair Labor Relations Act".

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 842.2 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

In an effort to provide a fair workplace that is responsive to the needs of state employees, the Legislature finds that it is desirable to set forth policies which will allow an equal partnership with the representative groups of state employees who have met the requirements as established by law.

SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 842.3 of Title 74, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. A state agency may not bar employees from engaging in the distribution of materials for a job-related organization on agency-controlled property during their nonworking time, unless there are special circumstances making such ban necessary in order to maintain services.

B. No one shall prevent representatives of job-related organizations from distributing membership materials in public areas of buildings occupied by state agencies.

C. State agencies shall permit representatives of job-related organizations reasonable access to meeting rooms under the control of the agency to meet with employees and distribute membership material during the employees' nonworking time. Further, state agencies shall permit representatives of job-related organizations such access to meet with all employees annually during at least one (1) hour of the employees' nonworking time. This subsection shall not require an agency to permit access to any meeting room or area when such access would jeopardize agency services.

D. Nothing in this section shall be interpreted as requiring an employee to accept any material, attend any meeting, or join any job-related organization. Further, such reasonable access shall be determined by the appointing authority of each agency.

E. Rules shall be promulgated by the Oklahoma Merit Protection Commission for implementation of this section.

SECTION 4. This act shall become effective November 1, 1996.

Passed the House of Representatives the 11th day of March, 1996.

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Passed the Senate the ____ day of _____, 1996.

President of the Senate