

By: Denny

H.B. No. 1513

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to salary deductions from public school employees for political purposes; providing civil and criminal penalties.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 22, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 22.0011 to read as follows:

Sec. 22.0011. SALARY DEDUCTIONS FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES PROHIBITED. (a) In this section, "political committee," "political contribution," and "political expenditure" have the meanings assigned by Section 251.001, Election Code.

(b) A school district employee may not have money deducted from the employee's salary and transferred to an association if:

(1) any portion of the deduction constitutes a political contribution to the association;

(2) the association will use any portion of the deduction to make a political expenditure; or

(3) the association will transfer any portion of the deduction to a political committee.

(c) An association commits an offense if the association:

(1) intentionally represents that a deduction from a school employee's salary will not be used in violation of Subsection (b); and

(2) knowingly uses any portion of a deduction from a school employee's salary in violation of Subsection (b).

1 (d) An association that commits conduct described by
2 Subsection (c) is liable for a civil penalty in an amount not to
3 exceed \$10,000 for each school district employee as to whom a salary
4 deduction is made.

5 (e) A school district officer or employee commits an offense
6 if the officer or employee with criminal negligence authorizes a
7 salary deduction prohibited by Subsection (b).

8 (f) An offense under this section is a state jail felony.

9 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.