By:  Hancock, et al. S.B. No. 936

(Smithee)

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to certain agreements with collective bargaining organizations related to certain publicly funded public work contracts.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 51.7761(b), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b)  An institution awarding a public work contract funded in whole or in part with state or local governmental money or governmentally administered financial assistance, including the issuance of debt guaranteed by this state or a local governmental entity, money from ratepayers, or money from user fees, may not:

(1)  prohibit, require, discourage, or encourage a person bidding on the public work contract, including a contractor or subcontractor, from entering into or adhering to an agreement with a collective bargaining organization relating to the project; or

(2)  discriminate against a person described by Subdivision (1) based on the person's involvement in the agreement, including the person's:

(A)  status or lack of status as a party to the agreement; or

(B)  willingness or refusal to enter into the agreement.

SECTION 2.  Section 2269.0541(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a)  A governmental entity awarding a public work contract funded in whole or in part with state or local governmental money or governmentally administered financial assistance, including the issuance of debt guaranteed by this state or a local governmental entity, money from ratepayers, or money from user fees, may not:

(1)  prohibit, require, discourage, or encourage a person bidding on the public work contract, including a contractor or subcontractor, from entering into or adhering to an agreement with a collective bargaining organization relating to the project; or

(2)  discriminate against a person described by Subdivision (1) based on the person's involvement in the agreement, including the person's:

(A)  status or lack of status as a party to the agreement; or

(B)  willingness or refusal to enter into the agreement.

SECTION 3.  The changes made by this Act to Section 51.7761, Education Code, and Section 2269.0541, Government Code, apply only to a public work contract for which an invitation for offers, request for proposals, request for qualifications, or other similar solicitation is first published or distributed on or after the effective date of this Act. A public work contract for which an invitation for offers, request for proposals, request for qualifications, or other similar solicitation is first published or distributed before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect at the time the invitation, request, or other solicitation is published or distributed, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 4.  This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2023.