A bill to be entitled An act relating to public employee collective bargaining; amending s. 447.203, F.S.; revising and providing definitions; amending s. 447.207, F.S.; providing additional prohibitions that the Public Employees Relations Commission may waive for certain employee organizations; amending s. 447.307, F.S.; revising the requirements for the certification, recertification, or decertification of an employee organization; repealing s. 447.308, F.S., relating to revocation of certification of employee organization; amending s. 447.509, F.S.; providing prohibitions on public employers, their agents or representatives, or any person acting on their behalf; authorizing certain actions by a public employee upon an agreement between the public employer and bargaining agent; providing exceptions for certain bargaining units; amending ss. 110.114, 110.205, 112.3187, 121.031, 447.02, 447.305, and 1011.60, F.S.; conforming cross-references; providing an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Section 447.203, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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447.203 Definitions.—As used in this part:

- $\underline{(1)}$  "Bargaining agent" means the employee organization that which has been certified by the commission as representing the employees in the bargaining unit, as provided in s. 447.307, or its representative.
- (2) (8) "Bargaining unit" means either that unit determined by the commission, that unit determined through local regulations promulgated pursuant to s. 447.603, or that unit determined by the public employer and the public employee organization and approved by the commission to be appropriate for the purposes of collective bargaining. However, no bargaining unit shall be defined as appropriate which includes employees of two employers that are not departments or divisions of the state, a county, a municipality, or other political entity.
- (3)(9) "Chief executive officer" for the state shall mean the Governor and for other public employers shall mean the person, whether elected or appointed, who is responsible to the legislative body of the public employer for the administration of the governmental affairs of the public employer.
- $\underline{(4)}$  "Civil service" means any career, civil, or merit system used by any public employer.
- $\underline{(5)}$  "Collective bargaining" means the performance of the mutual obligations of the public employer and the bargaining agent of the employee organization to meet at reasonable times,

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to negotiate in good faith, and to execute a written contract with respect to agreements reached concerning the terms and conditions of employment, except that neither party shall be compelled to agree to a proposal or be required to make a concession unless otherwise provided in this part.

- $\underline{\text{(6)}}$  "Commission" means the Public Employees Relations Commission created by s. 447.205.
- $\underline{(7)}$  "Confidential employees" are persons who act in a confidential capacity to assist or aid managerial employees as defined in subsection (12)  $\underline{(4)}$ .
- (8) (11) "Employee organization" or "organization" means any labor organization, union, association, fraternal order, occupational or professional society, or group, however organized or constituted, which represents, or seeks to represent, any public employee or group of public employees concerning any matters relating to their employment relationship with a public employer.
- (9) "Employee organization activities" means activities undertaken at the direction of, on behalf of, or to advance the purposes of an employee organization or any parent organization or affiliate of an employee organization by:
- (a) Supporting or opposing a candidate for federal, state, or local public office.
- (b) Influencing the passage or defeat of any federal or state legislation or regulation, local ordinance or resolution,

or ballot measure.

- (c) Promoting or soliciting membership or participation in, or financial support of, an employee organization or any parent organization or affiliate of an employee organization.
  - (d) Seeking certification as a bargaining agent.
- (e) Participating in the administration, business, or internal governance of an employee organization or any parent organization or affiliate of an employee organization.
- (f) Preparing, conducting, or attending employee organization events, conferences, conventions, meetings, or training, unless such training is directly related to the performance of a public employee's job duties.
- (g) Distributing communications of an employee organization or any parent organization or affiliate of the employee organization.
- (h) Representing or speaking on behalf of an employee organization or any parent organization or affiliate of the employee organization in any setting, venue, or procedure in which the public employer is not a participant.
- (i) Preparing, filing, or pursuing unfair labor practice charges or grievances.
- (j) Representing public employees in investigatory interviews; disciplinary proceedings or appeals, including termination; or other administrative or legal proceedings.
  - (k) Engaging in collective bargaining and any related

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mediation, factfinding, or arbitration.

- (1) Administering a collective bargaining agreement.
- (m) Participating in labor-management committees.
- (10) (17) "Good faith bargaining" means, but is not shall mean, but not be limited to, the willingness of both parties to meet at reasonable times and places, as mutually agreed upon, in order to discuss issues which are proper subjects of bargaining, with the intent of reaching a common accord. The term includes It shall include an obligation for both parties to participate actively in the negotiations with an open mind and a sincere desire, as well as making a sincere effort, to resolve differences and come to an agreement. In determining whether a party failed to bargain in good faith, the commission shall consider the total conduct of the parties during negotiations as well as the specific incidents of alleged bad faith. Incidents indicative of bad faith shall include, but not be limited to, the following occurrences:
- (a) Failure to meet at reasonable times and places with representatives of the other party for the purpose of negotiations.
- (b) Placing unreasonable restrictions on the other party as a prerequisite to meeting.
  - (c) Failure to discuss bargainable issues.
- (d) Refusing, upon reasonable written request, to provide public information, excluding work products as defined in s.

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- (e) Refusing to negotiate because of an unwanted person on the opposing negotiating team.
- (f) Negotiating directly with employees rather than with their certified bargaining agent.
  - (g) Refusing to reduce a total agreement to writing.
- (11)(10) "Legislative body" means the State Legislature, the board of county commissioners, the district school board, the governing body of a municipality, or the governing body of an instrumentality or unit of government having authority to appropriate funds and establish policy governing the terms and conditions of employment and which, as the case may be, is the appropriate legislative body for the bargaining unit. For purposes of s. 447.403, the Board of Governors of the State University System, or the board's designee, shall be deemed to be the legislative body with respect to all employees of each constituent state university. For purposes of s. 447.403 the board of trustees of a community college shall be deemed to be the legislative body with respect to all employees of the community college.
- $\underline{\text{(12)}}$  "Managerial employees"  $\underline{\text{means}}$  are those employees who:
- (a) Perform jobs that are not of a routine, clerical, or ministerial nature and require the exercise of independent judgment in the performance of such jobs and to whom one or more

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151 of the following applies:

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- 1. They formulate or assist in formulating policies which are applicable to bargaining unit employees.
- 2. They may reasonably be required on behalf of the employer to assist in the preparation for the conduct of collective bargaining negotiations.
- 3. They have a role in the administration of agreements resulting from collective bargaining negotiations.
- 4. They have a significant role in personnel administration.
  - 5. They have a significant role in employee relations.
- 6. They are included in the definition of administrative personnel contained in s. 1012.01(3).
- 7. They have a significant role in the preparation or administration of budgets for any public agency or institution or subdivision thereof.
- (b) Serve as police chiefs, fire chiefs, or directors of public safety of any police, fire, or public safety department. Other police officers, as defined in s. 943.10(1), and firefighters, as defined in s. 633.102, may be determined by the commission to be managerial employees of such departments. In making such determinations, the commission shall consider, in addition to the criteria established in paragraph (a), the paramilitary organizational structure of the department involved.

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However, in determining whether an individual is a managerial employee pursuant to paragraph (a) or paragraph (b), above, the commission may consider historic relationships of the employee to the public employer and to coemployees.

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(13) (15) "Membership dues deduction" means the practice of a public employer of deducting dues and uniform assessments from the salary or wages of a public employee. Such term also means the practice of a public employer of transmitting the sums so deducted to such employee organization.

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(14) <del>(13)</del> "Professional employee" means:

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(a) Any employee engaged in work in any two or more of the following categories:

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1. Work predominantly intellectual and varied in character as opposed to routine mental, manual, mechanical, or physical work.  $\div$ 

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2. Work involving the consistent exercise of discretion and judgment in its performance.  $\div$ 

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3. Work of such a character that the output produced or the result accomplished cannot be standardized in relation to a given period of time. ; and

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4. Work requiring advanced knowledge in a field of science or learning customarily acquired by a prolonged course of specialized intellectual instruction and study in an institution of higher learning or a hospital, as distinguished from a

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general academic education, an apprenticeship, or training in the performance of routine mental or physical processes.

(b) Any employee who:

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- 1. Has completed the course of specialized intellectual instruction and study described in subparagraph (a) 4. of paragraph (a); and
- 2. Is performing related work under supervision of a professional person to qualify to become a professional employee as defined in paragraph (a).
- $\underline{\text{(15)}}$  "Public employee" means any person employed by a public employer except:
- (a) Those persons appointed by the Governor or elected by the people, agency heads, and members of boards and commissions.
- (b) Those persons holding positions by appointment or employment in the organized militia.
- (c) Those individuals acting as negotiating representatives for employer authorities.
- (d) Those persons who are designated by the commission as managerial or confidential employees pursuant to criteria contained herein.
- (e) Those persons holding positions of employment with the Florida Legislature.
- (f) Those persons who have been convicted of a crime and are inmates confined to institutions within the state.
  - (g) Those persons appointed to inspection positions in

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federal/state fruit and vegetable inspection service whose conditions of appointment are affected by the following:

1. Federal license requirement.

- 2. Federal autonomy regarding investigation and disciplining of appointees.
  - 3. Frequent transfers due to harvesting conditions.
- (h) Those persons employed by the Public Employees Relations Commission.
- (i) Those persons enrolled as undergraduate students in a state university who perform part-time work for the state university.
- (16)(2) "Public employer" or "employer" means the state or any county, municipality, or special district or any subdivision or agency thereof which the commission determines has sufficient legal distinctiveness properly to carry out the functions of a public employer. With respect to all public employees determined by the commission as properly belonging to a statewide bargaining unit composed of State Career Service System employees or Selected Professional Service employees, the Governor is deemed to be the public employer; and the Board of Governors of the State University System, or the board's designee, is deemed to be the public employer with respect to all public employees of each constituent state university. The board of trustees of a community college is deemed to be the public employer with respect to all employees of the community

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college. The district school board is deemed to be the public employer with respect to all employees of the school district. The Board of Trustees of the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind is deemed to be the public employer with respect to the academic and academic administrative personnel of the Florida School for the Deaf and the Blind. The Board of Trustees of the Florida School for Competitive Academics is deemed to be the public employer with respect to the academic and academic administrative personnel of the Florida School for Competitive Academics. The Governor is deemed to be the public employer with respect to all employees in the Correctional Education Program of the Department of Corrections established pursuant to s. 944.801.

# (17) "Representational employee organization activities" means those activities specified in paragraphs (9)(i)-(m).

(18) (6) "Strike" means the concerted failure of employees to report for duty; the concerted absence of employees from their positions; the concerted stoppage of work by employees; the concerted submission of resignations by employees; the concerted abstinence in whole or in part by any group of employees from the full and faithful performance of the duties of employment with a public employer for the purpose of inducing, influencing, condoning, or coercing a change in the terms and conditions of employment or the rights, privileges, or obligations of public employment, or participating in a

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deliberate and concerted course of conduct which adversely affects the services of the public employer; the concerted failure of employees to report for work after the expiration of a collective bargaining agreement; and picketing in furtherance of a work stoppage. The term <a href="includes">includes</a> "strike" shall also mean any overt preparation, including, but not limited to, the establishment of strike funds with regard to the above-listed activities.

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- (19) (7) "Strike funds" are any appropriations by an employee organization which are established to directly or indirectly aid any employee or employee organization to participate in a strike in the state.
- (20) (18) "Student representative" means the representative selected by each community college or university student government association. Each representative may be present at all negotiating sessions that take place between the appropriate public employer and an exclusive bargaining agent. The representative must be enrolled as a student with at least 8 credit hours in the respective community college or university during his or her term as student representative.

## Section 2. Paragraph (d) is added to subsection (12) of section 447.207, Florida Statutes, to read:

- 447.207 Commission; powers and duties.-
- (12) Upon a petition by a public employer after it has been notified by the Department of Labor that the public

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employer's protective arrangement covering mass transit employees does not meet the requirements of 49 U.S.C. s. 5333(b) and would jeopardize the employer's continued eligibility to receive Federal Transit Administration funding, the commission may waive, to the extent necessary for the public employer to comply with the requirements of 49 U.S.C. s. 5333(b), any of the following for an employee organization that has been certified as a bargaining agent to represent mass transit employees: The prohibitions in s. 447.509(3) and the exceptions in s. 447.509(4). Section 3. Section 447.307, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 447.307 Certification, recertification, and decertification of employee organizations organization. -(1) An employee organization seeking certification as a bargaining agent, an employee organization seeking recertification as a bargaining agent under s. 447.305, or a public employee or group of public employees seeking to decertify a bargaining agent must (1) (a) Any employee organization which is designated or selected by a majority of public employees in an appropriate unit as their representative for purposes of collective bargaining shall request recognition by the public employer. The public employer shall, if satisfied as to the majority status of

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the employee organization and the appropriateness of the

proposed unit, recognize the employee organization as the collective bargaining representative of employees in the designated unit. Upon recognition by a public employer, the employee organization shall immediately petition the commission for certification. The commission shall review only the appropriateness of the unit proposed by the employee organization. If the unit is appropriate according to the criteria used in this part, the commission shall immediately certify the employee organization as the exclusive representative of all employees in the unit. If the unit is inappropriate according to the criteria used in this part, the commission may dismiss the petition.

(b) Whenever a public employer recognizes an employee organization on the basis of majority status and on the basis of appropriateness in accordance with subparagraph (4)(f)5. of this section, the commission shall, in the absence of inclusion of a prohibited category of employees or violation of s. 447.501, certify the proposed unit.

(2) If the public employer refuses to recognize the employee organization, the employee organization may file a petition with the commission accompanied by proof that for certification as the bargaining agent for a proposed bargaining unit. The petition shall be accompanied by dated statements signed by at least 30 percent of the public employees in the proposed or existing bargaining unit show interest in the

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proposed action. A unit, indicating that such employees desire to be represented for purposes of collective bargaining by the petitioning employee organization. Once a petition for certification has been filed by an employee organization, any registered employee organization desiring placement on the ballot in any certification or recertification election to be conducted pursuant to this section may be permitted by the commission to intervene in the proceeding upon filing a motion accompanied by proof that dated statements signed by at least 10 percent of the public employees in the proposed or existing bargaining unit show interest in the proposed action. The required proof of interest is unit, indicating that such employees desire to be represented for the purposes of collective bargaining by the moving employee organization. The petitions and dated statements signed by the employees are confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1), except that any employee, employer, or employee organization having sufficient reason to believe any of the employee signatures were obtained by collusion, coercion, intimidation, or misrepresentation or are otherwise invalid shall be given a reasonable opportunity to verify and challenge the signatures appearing on the petition.

(2) A petition for certification or decertification may not be filed regarding any proposed or existing bargaining unit within 12 months after the commission's order verifying the

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results of a certification election covering any of the public employees of the proposed or existing bargaining unit.

- (3) (a) The commission or one of its designated agents shall investigate the petition to determine its sufficiency; if it has reasonable cause to believe that the petition is sufficient, the commission shall provide for an appropriate hearing upon due notice. Such a hearing may be conducted by an agent of the commission. If the commission finds the petition is to be insufficient, the commission must it may dismiss the petition. If the commission finds upon the record of the hearing that the petition is sufficient, the commission must it shall immediately:
- (a) 1. Define the proposed or existing bargaining unit and determine which public employees are shall be qualified and entitled to vote at any election held by the commission. The commission may hold a hearing for such purpose upon the provision of due notice.
- $\underline{\text{(b)}\,2}$ . Identify the public employer or employers for purposes of collective bargaining with the bargaining agent.
- $\underline{\text{(c)}}_3$ . Order an election by secret ballot, the cost of said election and any required runoff election to be borne equally by the parties, except as the commission may provide by rule. The commission's order assessing costs of an election may be enforced pursuant to the provisions of this part.
  - (4) (a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), all elections

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must be determined by a majority vote of the public employees in the bargaining unit for all petitions for certification, recertification, or decertification filed on or after July 1, 2025, as follows:

1. In certification and recertification elections, if

- (b) when an employee organization is selected by a majority vote of the <u>public</u> employees <u>in the bargaining unit</u> voting in an election, the commission <u>must shall</u> certify the employee organization as the <u>exclusive collective</u> bargaining <u>agent for the public representative of all</u> employees in the <u>bargaining</u> unit. <u>If there are three or more Certification is effective upon the issuance of the final order by the commission or, if the final order is appealed, at the time the appeal is exhausted or</u>
- (c) In any election in which none of the choices on the ballot and no choice receives a majority of the votes receives the vote of a majority of the employees voting, a runoff election must shall be held between the two choices that received the most votes according to rules promulgated by the commission.

any stay is vacated by the commission or the court.

2. In decertification elections, if the bargaining agent fails to receive the votes of a majority of the public employees in the bargaining unit, the commission must revoke the bargaining agent's certification for that bargaining unit. If a majority of the public employees in the bargaining unit vote

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against decertification, the bargaining agent retains its certification for that bargaining unit.

- 3. An employee organization the certification of which is revoked under this paragraph may not file a petition for certification covering any of the public employees in the bargaining unit defined in the revoked certification for at least 12 months after the date the employee organization's certification is revoked.
- (b) With respect to bargaining units in which the majority of the public employees are law enforcement officers, correctional officers, or correctional probation officers as those terms are defined in s. 943.10(1), (2), and (3), respectively; firefighters as defined in s. 633.102(9); 911 public safety telecommunicators as defined in s. 401.465(1); or emergency medical technicians or paramedics as defined in s. 401.23, all elections must be determined by a majority vote of the public employees voting in an election as follows:
- 1. In certification and recertification elections, if an employee organization is selected by a majority vote of the public employees, the commission must certify the employee organization as the bargaining agent for the public employees in the bargaining unit. If none of the choices on the ballot receive a majority vote of the public employees, a runoff election must be held according to rules promulgated by the commission.

2. In decertification elections, if a majority of the public employees vote in favor of decertification, the commission must revoke the bargaining agent's certification for that bargaining unit. If a majority of the public employees vote against decertification, the bargaining agent retains its certification for that bargaining unit.

- (c) Certification, recertification, or revocation pursuant to this section is effective upon the issuance of the final order by the commission or, if the final order is appealed, at the time the appeal is exhausted or any stay is vacated by the commission or the court.
- (d) No petition may be filed seeking an election in any proposed or existing appropriate bargaining unit to determine the exclusive bargaining agent within 12 months after the date of a commission order verifying a representation election or, if an employee organization prevails, within 12 months after the date of an effective certification covering any of the employees in the proposed or existing bargaining unit. Furthermore, if a valid collective bargaining agreement covering any of the employees in a proposed unit is in effect, a petition for certification may be filed with the commission only during the period extending from 150 days to 90 days immediately preceding the expiration date of that agreement, or at any time subsequent to its expiration date but prior to the effective date of any new agreement. The effective date of a collective bargaining

agreement means the date of ratification by both parties, if the agreement becomes effective immediately or retroactively; or its actual effective date, if the agreement becomes effective after its ratification date.

(5) (4) In defining a proposed bargaining unit, the commission shall take into consideration:

- (a) The principles of efficient administration of government.
- (b) The number of employee organizations with which the employer might have to negotiate.
- (c) The compatibility of the unit with the joint responsibilities of the public employer and public employees to represent the public.
- (d) The power of the officials of government at the level of the unit to agree, or make effective recommendations to another administrative authority or to a legislative body, with respect to matters of employment upon which the employee desires to negotiate.
  - (e) The organizational structure of the public employer.
- (f) Community of interest among the employees to be included in the unit, considering:
- 1. The manner in which wages and other terms of employment are determined.
- 2. The method by which jobs and salary classifications are determined.

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3.	The	interdependence	of	jobs	and	interchange	of
employees	5.						

4. The desires of the employees.

- 5. The history of employee relations within the organization of the public employer concerning organization and negotiation and the interest of the employees and the employer in the continuation of a traditional, workable, and accepted negotiation relationship.
- (g) The statutory authority of the public employer to administer a classification and pay plan.
- (h) Such other factors and policies as the commission may deem appropriate.

However, a bargaining no unit may not shall be established or approved for purposes of collective bargaining which includes both professional and nonprofessional employees unless a majority of each group votes for inclusion in such bargaining unit.

- Section 4. Section 447.308, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

  Section 5. Section 447.509, Florida Statutes, is amended

  to read:
  - 447.509 Other Unlawful acts; exceptions; jurisdiction.-
- (1) Employee organizations, their members, agents, or representatives, or any persons acting on their behalf are hereby prohibited from:

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(a) Soliciting public employees during working hours of any employee who is involved in the solicitation.

- (b) Distributing literature during working hours in areas where the actual work of public employees is performed, such as offices, warehouses, schools, police stations, fire stations, and any similar public installations. This section <a href="may shall">may shall</a> not be construed to prohibit the distribution of literature during the employee's lunch hour or in such areas not specifically devoted to the performance of the employee's official duties.
- (c) Instigating or advocating support, in any positive manner, for an employee organization's activities from high school or grade school students during classroom time.
- (d) Offering anything of value to a public officer as defined in s. 112.313(1) which the public officer is prohibited from accepting under s. 112.313(2).
- (e) Offering any compensation, payment, or thing of value to a public officer as defined in s. 112.313(1) which the public officer is prohibited from accepting under s. 112.313(4).
- (2) An No employee organization  $\underline{\text{may not}}$  shall directly or indirectly pay any fines or penalties assessed against individuals pursuant to  $\underline{\text{the provisions of}}$  this part.
- (3) Public employers, their agents or representatives, or any persons acting on their behalf, are prohibited from:
- (a) Denying an employee organization or entity governed by the Florida Not For Profit Corporation Act access to or use of

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the public employer's meetings, events, facilities,
communications systems, mailboxes, computer systems, equipment,
supplies, or other resources if the public employer allows
another employee organization or any parent organization or
affiliate of the employee organization such access or use.

- (b) Providing any form of compensation or paid leave to a public employee, directly or indirectly, for the purpose of engaging in employee organization activities.
- (4) Notwithstanding subsection (3), a public employee may do all of the following upon an agreement during collective bargaining between his or her public employer and the bargaining agent:
- (a) Be granted time off without pay or benefits to engage in employee organization activities. An employee organization may compensate a public employee for engaging in employee organization activities.
- (b) Use compensated personal leave, whether the leave is the public employee's or is voluntarily donated by other employees in the bargaining unit, to engage in employee organization activities if:
- 1. The leave is accrued at the same rate by similarly situated public employees in the bargaining unit without regard to membership in or participation with an employee organization.
- 2. The public employee may freely choose how to use such leave.

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- 1. The bargaining agent reports to the public employer at least biannually the amount of time, in increments rounded to the nearest quarter of an hour, each public employee in the bargaining unit engaged in representational employee organization activities each day.
- 2. The public employer calculates the pro rata value of compensation, including wages and fringe benefits, paid to or accrued by a public employee for time spent engaged in representational employee organization activities and provides an invoice for the amounts calculated to the bargaining agent at least biannually.
- 3. The bargaining agent remits full payment to the public employer within 30 days after receipt of an invoice.
- (5) Subsections (3) and (4) do not apply to bargaining units in which the majority of the public employees are law enforcement officers, correctional officers, or correctional probation officers as those terms are defined in s. 943.10(1), (2), and (3), respectively; firefighters as defined in s. 633.102(9); 911 public safety telecommunicators as defined in s. 401.465(1); or emergency medical technicians or paramedics as defined in s. 401.23.
  - (6) (3) The circuit courts of this state shall have

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jurisdiction to enforce the provisions of this section by injunction and contempt proceedings, if necessary. A public employee who is convicted of a violation of any provision of this section may be discharged or otherwise disciplined by his or her public employer, notwithstanding any other further provisions of law, and notwithstanding the provisions of any collective bargaining agreement.

### Section 6. Subsection (3) of section 110.114, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

110.114 Employee wage deductions.-

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsections (1) and (2), the deduction of an employee's membership dues deductions as defined in s. 447.203 s. 447.203(15) for an employee organization as defined in s. 447.203 s. 447.203(11) shall be authorized or permitted only for an organization that has been certified as the exclusive bargaining agent pursuant to chapter 447 for a unit of state employees in which the employee is included. Such deductions shall be subject to the provisions of s. 447.303.

### Section 7. Paragraph (w) of subsection (2) of section 110.205, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 110.205 Career service; exemptions.-
- (2) EXEMPT POSITIONS.—The exempt positions that are not covered by this part include the following:
  - (w) Managerial employees and, as defined in s. 447.203(4),

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confidential employees, as those terms are defined in s. 447.203 s. 447.203(5), and supervisory employees who spend the majority of their time communicating with, motivating, training, and evaluating employees, and planning and directing employees' work, and who have the authority to hire, transfer, suspend, lay off, recall, promote, discharge, assign, reward, or discipline subordinate employees or effectively recommend such action, including all employees serving as supervisors, administrators, and directors. Excluded are employees also designated as special risk or special risk administrative support and attorneys who serve as administrative law judges pursuant to s. 120.65 or for hearings conducted pursuant to s. 120.57(1)(a). Additionally, registered nurses licensed under chapter 464, dentists licensed under chapter 466, psychologists licensed under chapter 490 or chapter 491, nutritionists or dietitians licensed under part X of chapter 468, pharmacists licensed under chapter 465, psychological specialists licensed under chapter 491, physical therapists licensed under chapter 486, and speech therapists licensed under part I of chapter 468 are excluded, unless otherwise collectively bargained.

## Section 8. Subsection (6) of section 112.3187, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

112.3187 Adverse action against employee for disclosing information of specified nature prohibited; employee remedy and relief.—

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TO WHOM INFORMATION DISCLOSED.—The information disclosed under this section must be disclosed to any agency or federal government entity having the authority to investigate, police, manage, or otherwise remedy the violation or act, including, but not limited to, the Office of the Chief Inspector General, an agency inspector general or the employee designated as agency inspector general under s. 112.3189(1) or inspectors general under s. 20.055, the Florida Commission on Human Relations, and the whistle-blower's hotline created under s. 112.3189. However, for disclosures concerning a local governmental entity, including any regional, county, or municipal entity, special district, community college district, or school district or any political subdivision of any of the foregoing, the information must be disclosed to a chief executive officer as defined in s.  $447.203 ext{ s. } ext{447.203 (9)}$  or other appropriate local official.

### Section 9. Subsection (5) of section 121.031, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 121.031 Administration of system; appropriation; oaths; actuarial studies; public records.—
- (5) The names and addresses of retirees are confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) to the extent that no state or local governmental agency may provide the names or addresses of such persons in aggregate, compiled, or list form to any person except to a public agency engaged in official

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business. However, a state or local government agency may provide the names and addresses of retirees from that agency to a bargaining agent as defined in <u>s. 447.203</u> <u>s. 447.203(12)</u> or to a retiree organization for official business use. Lists of names or addresses of retirees may be exchanged by public agencies, but such lists shall not be provided to, or open for inspection by, the public. Any person may view or copy any individual's retirement records at the Department of Management Services, one record at a time, or may obtain information by a separate written request for a named individual for which information is desired.

### Section 10. Subsection (1) of section 447.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 447.02 Definitions.—The following terms, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section:
- (1) The term "labor organization" means any organization of employees or local or subdivision thereof, having within its membership residents of the state, whether incorporated or not, organized for the purpose of dealing with employers concerning hours of employment, rate of pay, working conditions, or grievances of any kind relating to employment and recognized as a unit of bargaining by one or more employers doing business in this state, except that an "employee organization," as defined in <u>s. 447.203</u> <u>s. 447.203(11)</u>, shall be included in this

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701 definition at such time as it seeks to register pursuant to s. 702 447.305.

#### Section 11. Subsection (6) of section 447.305, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

447.305 Registration of employee organization.-

(6) Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter relating to collective bargaining, an employee organization certified as a bargaining agent to represent a bargaining unit for which less than 60 percent of the unit employees have submitted membership authorization forms without subsequent revocation and paid dues to the organization during its last registration period must petition the commission pursuant to  $\underline{s}$ .  $\underline{447.307}$   $\underline{s}$ .  $\underline{447.307(2)}$  and  $\underline{(3)}$  for recertification as the exclusive representative of all employees in the bargaining unit within 30 days after the date on which the employee organization applies for renewal of registration pursuant to subsection (2). The certification of an employee organization that does not comply with this section is revoked.

## Section 12. Subsection (2) of section 1011.60, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1011.60 Minimum requirements of the Florida Education Finance Program.—Each district which participates in the state appropriations for the Florida Education Finance Program shall provide evidence of its effort to maintain an adequate school program throughout the district and shall meet at least the

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726 following requirements:

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MINIMUM TERM.—Operate all schools for a term of 180 actual teaching days or the equivalent on an hourly basis as specified by rules of the State Board of Education each school year. The State Board of Education may prescribe procedures for altering, and, upon written application, may alter, this requirement during a national, state, or local emergency as it may apply to an individual school or schools in any district or districts if, in the opinion of the board, it is not feasible to make up lost days or hours, and the apportionment may, at the discretion of the Commissioner of Education and if the board determines that the reduction of school days or hours is caused by the existence of a bona fide emergency, be reduced for such district or districts in proportion to the decrease in the length of term in any such school or schools. A strike, as defined in s.  $447.203 ext{ s. } 447.203(6)$ , by employees of the school district may not be considered an emergency.

Section 13. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

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