

SS SB 182 -- PROJECT LABOR AGREEMENTS

Currently, the state, or any agency or instrumentality of the state is prohibited, from requiring, or prohibiting, bidders from entering into agreements with labor organizations when entering into contracts for the construction of public projects funded by more than 50% by the state. This bill removes the 50% funding threshold and further prohibits the state, any agency, political subdivision, or instrumentality thereof from requiring, or prohibiting, bidders from entering into agreements with labor organizations when entering into contracts for the construction, repair, remodeling, or demolition of a facility. Discrimination against such bidders is also prohibited. Moreover, the state, any agency, political subdivision, or instrumentality of the state, shall not encourage or give preferential treatment to bidders who enter or refuse to enter into agreements with a labor organization. Any entity which violates the provisions of this bill is liable to the person affected for equitable damages as well as reasonable attorney's fees. Furthermore, such entities shall not be eligible for state funding, including tax credits for two years.

The bill gives investigatory authority to prosecuting attorneys, circuit attorneys, and the Attorney General for complaints of violations of this bill. Furthermore, such entities shall use all means at their command to ensure the effective enforcement of this bill.