

HB 259 -- FREEDOM TO WORK ACT

SPONSOR: Taylor

This bill establishes the "Freedom to Work Act" which specifies that a person as a condition or continuation of employment cannot be required to become or refrain from becoming a member of a labor organization as defined in the bill; pay dues, fees, assessments, or other similar charges to a labor organization; or pay to any charity or third party any equivalent amount in lieu of dues, fees, assessments, or other charges required of a member of a labor organization.

Anyone violating a provision of the bill will be guilty of a class C misdemeanor, and any person injured as a result of a violation of a provision of the bill may recover all resulting damages, including costs and attorney fees, and will be entitled to injunctive relief against any violator or person threatening a violation.

Certain specified employers, employees, and agreements are exempt from the provisions of the bill.

The issues of adopting and repealing the act may be put on the ballot by the county governing body or by voter petition.

If 50% of the counties, plus one additional county, adopt the provisions of this bill, the provisions will become effective in every county of this state.