

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 928

To amend the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959 to ensure that employees have adequate access and information regarding the use of employee dues and fees paid to labor organizations.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 5, 1997

Mr. CHRISTENSEN (for himself, Mr. BASS, Mr. CHABOT, Mr. COBURN, Mr. DICKY, Mr. HASTINGS of Washington, Mr. NORWOOD, and Mr. WHITFIELD) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

A BILL

To amend the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959 to ensure that employees have adequate access and information regarding the use of employee dues and fees paid to labor organizations.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Union Members Right
5 to Know Act of 1997”.

1 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

2 Section 2 of the Labor-Management Reporting and
3 Disclosure Act of 1959 (29 U.S.C. 401(d)) is amended
4 by adding at the end the following:

5 “(d) PROTECTION OF RIGHT OF EMPLOYEE TO IN-
6 FORMATION REGARDING USE OF DUES.—The Congress
7 further finds that employees should have complete access
8 to information regarding expenditures by labor organiza-
9 tions to whom they pay dues or agency fees.”.

10 **SEC. 3. REPORT OF LABOR ORGANIZATIONS.**

11 (a) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—Section 201(b) of
12 the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of
13 1959 (29 U.S.C. 431(b)) is amended—

14 (1) by striking the word “and” at the end of
15 paragraph (5)—

16 (2) by striking the period at the end of para-
17 graph (6) and inserting “; and”; and

18 (3) by adding at the end the following:

19 “(7) an itemization of the total amount spent
20 by the labor organization for—

21 “(A) contract negotiation and administra-
22 tion ;

23 “(B) organizing activities;

24 “(C) strike activities;

25 “(D) political activities (other than the ac-
26 tivities listed in subparagraph (E);

1 “(E) activities attempting to influence the
2 passage or defeat of Federal, State, or local leg-
3 islation or the content or enforcement of Fed-
4 eral, State, or local regulations or policies;

5 “(F) voter education and issue advocacy
6 activities;

7 “(8) the percentage of the labor organization’s
8 total expenditures that were spent for each of the
9 activities described in subparagraphs (A) through
10 (F) of paragraph (7);

11 “(9) the names, addresses, and activities of any
12 of the lobbyists whose services are used by the labor
13 organization for any activity described in subpara-
14 graphs (D) through (F) of paragraph (7);

15 “(10) a list of political candidates, political or-
16 ganizations, charitable organizations, and commu-
17 nity organizations to which the labor organization
18 contributed financial or in-kind assistance and the
19 dollar amount of such assistance;

20 “(11) the name and address of any political ac-
21 tion committees with which the labor organization is
22 affiliated or provides contributions, the total amount
23 of contributions to such committees, the candidates

1 or causes to which such committees provided any fi-
 2 nancial assistance, and the amount provided to each
 3 such candidate or cause.”.

4 (b) **METHODOLOGY.**—Section 201(b) of the Labor-
 5 Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959 (29
 6 U.S.C. 431(b)) is amended by adding at the end (as
 7 amended by subsection (a)) the following:
 8 “The method used to calculate the percentages required
 9 in paragraphs (7) through (11) shall be consistent from
 10 year to year and an explanation shall be attached to the
 11 report describing the method used.”.

12 **SEC. 4. INFORMATION TO EMPLOYEES.**

13 Section 201(c) of the Labor-Management Reporting
 14 and Disclosure Act of 1959 (29 U.S.C. 431(c)) is amend-
 15 ed—

16 (1) by striking “make available information”
 17 and inserting “provide on an annual basis complete
 18 copies of the reports”;

19 (2) by striking “its members” and inserting
 20 “the employees it represents”;

21 (3) by striking “any member of such organiza-
 22 tion” and inserting “any employee represented by
 23 such organization”; and

- 1 (4) by striking “such member” and inserting
- 2 “such employee”.

