

**SENATE BILL No. 511**

By Committee on Federal and State Affairs

2-15

1 AN ACT concerning public employee and professional employees'  
2 organizations; relating to dues; commencement and cessation of  
3 withholding of dues; procedure; providing certain rights to employees;  
4 amending K.S.A. 44-319, 72-2219, 72-2241, 75-4324, 75-4327 and 75-  
5 5501 and repealing the existing sections.

6  
7 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

8 Section 1. K.S.A. 44-319 is hereby amended to read as follows: 44-  
9 319. (a) Except as provided in subsections (b) and (c), no employer may  
10 withhold, deduct or divert any portion of an employee's wages unless:

11 (1) The employer is required or empowered to do so by state or  
12 federal law;

13 (2) the deductions are for medical, surgical or hospital care or service,  
14 without financial benefit to the employer, and are openly, clearly and in  
15 due course recorded in the employer's books;

16 (3) the employer has a signed authorization by the employee for  
17 deductions for a lawful purpose accruing to the benefit of the employee; or

18 (4) the deductions are for contributions attributable to automatic  
19 enrollment, as defined in K.S.A. 44-319a, and amendments thereto, in a  
20 retirement plan established by the employer described in sections 401(k),  
21 403(b), 408, 408A or 457 of the internal revenue code.

22 (b) Subject to the provisions of subsection (e), pursuant to a signed  
23 written agreement between the employer and employee, an employer may  
24 withhold, deduct or divert any portion of an employee's wages for the  
25 following purposes:

26 (1) To allow the employee to repay a loan or advance ~~which~~ that the  
27 employer made to the employee during the course of and within the scope  
28 of employment;

29 (2) to allow for recovery of payroll overpayment; and

30 (3) to compensate the employer for the replacement cost or unpaid  
31 balance of the cost of the employer's merchandise or uniforms purchased  
32 by the employee.

33 (c) Subject to the provisions of subsection (e), upon providing a  
34 written notice and explanation, an employer may withhold, deduct or  
35 divert any portion of an employee's final wages for the following purposes:

36 (1) To recover the employer's property provided to the employee in

1 the course of the employer's business including, but not limited to, tools of  
2 the trade or profession, personal safety equipment, computers, electronic  
3 devices, mobile phones, proprietary information such as client or customer  
4 lists and intellectual property, security information, keys or access cards or  
5 materials until such time as such property is returned by the employee to  
6 the employer. Upon return of the employer's property, the employer shall  
7 relinquish the wages withheld to the employee;

8 (2) to allow an employee to repay a loan or advance which the  
9 employer made to the employee during the course of and within the scope  
10 of employment;

11 (3) to allow for the recovery of payroll overpayment; or

12 (4) to compensate the employer for the replacement cost or unpaid  
13 balance of the cost of the employer's merchandise, uniforms, company  
14 property, equipment, tools of the trade or other materials intentionally  
15 purchased by the employee.

16 (d) Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting the  
17 withholding of amounts authorized in writing by the employee to be  
18 contributed by the employee to charitable organizations; nor shall this  
19 section prohibit deductions by check-off of dues to labor organizations or  
20 service fees, where such is not otherwise prohibited by law. *Deductions of*  
21 *dues to professional employees' organizations and to public employee*  
22 *organizations shall be subject to the provisions of K.S.A. 72-2219 and 75-*  
23 *4324, and amendments thereto.*

24 (e) Amounts withheld under this section shall not reduce wages paid  
25 to below the minimum wage required under the federal fair labor standards  
26 act, 29 U.S.C.A. § 201 et seq., or the minimum wage required under  
27 K.S.A. 44-1203, and amendments thereto, whichever is applicable.

28 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 72-2219 is hereby amended to read as follows: 72-  
29 2219. (a) Professional employees shall have the right to form, join or assist  
30 professional employees' organizations, to participate in professional  
31 negotiation with boards of education through representatives of their own  
32 choosing for the purpose of establishing, maintaining, protecting or  
33 improving terms and conditions of professional service. Professional  
34 employees shall also have the right to refrain from any or all of the  
35 foregoing activities. In professional negotiations under this act the board of  
36 education may be represented by an agent or committee designated by it.

37 (b) *Professional employees shall have the right to immediately cease*  
38 *the withholding of professional employees' organization dues from their*  
39 *wages at any time upon the submission of a written or emailed request to*  
40 *their board of education. Upon receipt of a written or emailed request, the*  
41 *board of education shall immediately provide written or emailed*  
42 *notification of the employee's decision to the professional employees'*  
43 *organization and shall cease any withholding of dues for the professional*

1 employees' organization from the employee's wages, and no further debt to  
2 the professional employees' organization shall accrue. The right to  
3 immediately resign from and immediately end any financial obligation to a  
4 professional employees' organization shall not be waived. Boards of  
5 education shall notify their professional employees of their right to cease  
6 payment of professional employees' organization dues and to withdraw  
7 from a professional employees' organization by providing, at least  
8 annually, written notification in the authorization for withholding form as  
9 provided in subsection (d).

10 (c) Authorization by a professional employee for the withholding of  
11 professional employees' organization dues shall not exceed one year in  
12 duration and shall be subject to annual renewal.

13 (d) (1) Authorization for withholding shall be on a form approved by  
14 the secretary of labor and shall contain a statement in 14-point boldface  
15 font reading:

16 "I am aware that I have a First Amendment right, as recognized by the  
17 United States Supreme Court, to refrain from joining and paying dues to a  
18 labor union (professional employees' organization). I further realize that  
19 membership and payment of dues are voluntary and that I may not be  
20 discriminated against for my refusal to join or financially support a union.  
21 I hereby waive my First Amendment right to refrain from union  
22 membership and dues payments and authorize my employer to deduct  
23 union dues from my salary in the amounts specified in accordance with my  
24 professional employees' organization's bylaws. I understand that I may  
25 revoke this authorization at any time."

26 (2) The authorization for withholding form shall include the  
27 professional employee's full name, position, professional employees'  
28 organization and signature and shall be submitted to the board of  
29 education employing such professional employee. After receiving the  
30 authorization for withholding form, the employer shall confirm the  
31 authorization by emailing the professional employee at the employee's  
32 employer-provided work email address and shall wait for confirmation of  
33 the authorization before starting any deduction. If the employee does not  
34 possess an employer-provided work email address, the employer may use  
35 other means it deems appropriate to confirm the authorization.

36 Sec. 3. K.S.A. 72-2241 is hereby amended to read as follows: 72-  
37 2241. (a) The board of education of any school district or the board of  
38 trustees of any community college may provide by resolution for  
39 deductions for specified purposes from the compensation paid to its  
40 employees. Any such resolution shall provide for written authorization  
41 from each employee, in specific terms as to the amount, subject to the  
42 provisions of subsection (b), purpose and disposition of any amounts so  
43 deducted. Deductions for taxes and other amounts required by law to be

1 deducted from employees' compensation shall not require written  
2 authorization of the employee.

3 (b) *Subject to the provisions of K.S.A. 72-2219, and amendments*  
4 *thereto*, written authorizations from employees for deductions from  
5 compensation for payments of professional association dues shall remain  
6 in effect until modified or revoked in writing by the professional  
7 association or the employee; or until the employee's contract of  
8 employment is terminated. So long as the written authorization from an  
9 employee for deductions for professional association dues remains in  
10 effect and upon written notice of an increase in the amount of such dues  
11 being given to the board of education or the board of trustees and to all  
12 affected employees, the amount specified to be deducted in such written  
13 authorization may be increased by an amount deemed necessary by a  
14 professional association for a school year. In no event shall the amount of  
15 deductions from compensation for payments of professional association  
16 dues be increased more than one time in each school year without specific  
17 written authorization from the employee for such increase.

18 Sec. 4. K.S.A. 75-4324 is hereby amended to read as follows: 75-  
19 4324. (a) Public employees shall have the right to form, join and  
20 participate in the activities of employee organizations of their own  
21 choosing; for the purpose of meeting and conferring with public employers  
22 or their designated representatives with respect to grievances and  
23 conditions of employment. Public employees also shall have the right to  
24 refuse to join or participate in the activities of employee organizations.

25 (b) *Public employees shall have the right to immediately cease the*  
26 *withholding of employee organization dues from their wages at any time*  
27 *upon the submission of a written or emailed request to their public*  
28 *employer. Upon receipt of a written or emailed request, the public*  
29 *employer shall immediately provide written or emailed notification of the*  
30 *employee's decision to the employee organization and shall cease any*  
31 *withholding of dues for the employee organization from the employee's*  
32 *wages, and no further debt to the employee organization shall accrue. The*  
33 *right to immediately resign and immediately end any financial obligation*  
34 *to an employee organization shall not be waived. Public employers shall*  
35 *notify their employees of their right to cease payment of employee*  
36 *organization dues and to withdraw from an employee organization by*  
37 *providing, at least annually, written notification and a request form to*  
38 *their employees.*

39 (c) *Authorization by a public employee for the withholding of public*  
40 *employee organization dues shall not exceed one year in duration and*  
41 *shall be subject to annual renewal.*

42 (d) (1) *Authorization for withholding shall be on a form approved by*  
43 *the public employee relations board, established by K.S.A. 75-4323, and*

1 *amendments thereto, and shall contain a statement in 14-point boldface*  
2 *font reading:*

3 *"I am aware that I have a First Amendment right, as recognized by the*  
4 *United States Supreme Court, to refrain from joining and paying dues to a*  
5 *labor union (employee organization). I further realize that membership*  
6 *and payment of dues are voluntary and that I may not be discriminated*  
7 *against for my refusal to join or financially support a union. I hereby*  
8 *waive my First Amendment right to refrain from union membership and*  
9 *dues payments and authorize my employer to deduct union dues from my*  
10 *salary in the amounts specified in accordance with my employee*  
11 *organization's bylaws. I understand that I may revoke this authorization at*  
12 *any time."*

13 *(2) The authorization for withholding form shall contain the*  
14 *employee's full name, position, employee organization and signature and*  
15 *shall be submitted to the employee's public employer. The employer shall*  
16 *confirm the authorization by emailing the employee's employer-provided*  
17 *work email address and shall wait for confirmation of the authorization*  
18 *before starting any deduction. If the employee does not possess an*  
19 *employer-provided work email address, the employer may use other means*  
20 *it deems appropriate to confirm the authorization.*

21 Sec. 5. K.S.A. 75-4327 is hereby amended to read as follows: 75-  
22 4327. (a) Public employers shall recognize employee organizations for the  
23 purpose of representing their members in relations with public agencies as  
24 to grievances and conditions of employment. Employee organizations may  
25 establish reasonable provisions for an individual's admission to or  
26 dismissal from membership, *subject to the provisions of K.S.A. 75-4324,*  
27 *and amendments thereto.*

28 (b) Where an employee organization has been certified by the board  
29 as representing a majority of the employees in an appropriate unit, or  
30 recognized formally by the public employer pursuant to the provisions of  
31 this act, the appropriate employer shall meet and confer in good faith with  
32 such employee organization in the determination of conditions of  
33 employment of the public employees as provided in this act, and may enter  
34 into a memorandum of agreement with such recognized employee  
35 organization.

36 (c) A recognized employee organization shall represent not less than a  
37 majority of the employees of an appropriate unit. When a question  
38 concerning the designation of an appropriate unit is raised by a public  
39 agency, employee organization or by five or more employees, the public  
40 employee relations board, at the request of any of the parties, shall  
41 investigate such question and, after a hearing in accordance with the  
42 provisions of the Kansas administrative procedure act, rule on the  
43 definition of the appropriate unit in accordance with subsection (e).

1 (d) Following determination of the appropriate unit of employees, the  
2 public employee relations board, at the request of the public employer or  
3 on petition of employees, shall investigate questions and certify to the  
4 parties in writing, the names of the representatives that have been  
5 designated for an appropriate unit. The filing of a petition for the  
6 investigation or certification of a representative of employees shall show  
7 the names of not less than 30% of the employees within an appropriate  
8 unit. In any such investigation, the board may provide for an appropriate  
9 hearing, shall determine voting eligibility and shall take a secret ballot of  
10 employees in the appropriate unit involved to ascertain such  
11 representatives for the purpose of formal recognition. Recognition shall be  
12 granted only to an employee organization that has been selected as a  
13 representative of an appropriate unit, in a secret ballot election, by a  
14 majority of the employees in an appropriate unit who voted at such  
15 election. Each employee eligible to vote shall be provided the opportunity  
16 to choose the employee organization such employee wishes to represent  
17 such employee, from among those on the ballot, or to choose "no  
18 representation." When an election in which the ballot provided for three or  
19 more choices between representatives and no representation resulted in no  
20 choice receiving a majority of the valid votes cast, the board shall conduct  
21 a run-off election by secret ballot. The ballot in a run-off election shall  
22 only provide for a selection between the two choices receiving the largest  
23 and second largest number of votes in the original election. The board is  
24 authorized to hold elections to determine whether: (1) An employee  
25 organization should be recognized as the formal representative of  
26 employees in a unit; (2) an employee organization should replace another  
27 employee organization as the formal representative of employees in a unit;  
28 *and* (3) a recognized employee organization should be decertified.

29 Any petition calling for an election in accordance with this section shall  
30 be dismissed by the board without determining the questions raised therein  
31 if such petition is filed more than 150 days or less than 90 days prior to the  
32 expiration date of an existing memorandum of agreement which governs  
33 the terms and conditions of employment of the employees within the  
34 appropriate unit.

35 If the board has certified a formally recognized representative in an  
36 appropriate unit, it shall not be required to consider the matter again for a  
37 period of one year, unless the board determines that sufficient reason  
38 exists. The board may promulgate such rules and regulations as may be  
39 appropriate to carry out the provisions of subsections (c) and (d).

40 (e) Any group of public employees considering the formation of an  
41 employee organization for formal recognition, any public employer  
42 considering the recognition of an employee organization on its own  
43 volition and the board, in investigating questions at the request of the

1 parties as specified in this section, shall take into consideration, along with  
2 other relevant factors: (1) The principle of efficient administration of  
3 government; (2) the existence of a community of interest among  
4 employees; (3) the history and extent of employee organization; (4)  
5 geographical location; (5) the effects of overfragmentation and the  
6 splintering of a work organization; (6) the provisions of K.S.A. 75-4325,  
7 and amendments thereto; and (7) the recommendations of the parties  
8 involved.

9 (f) A recognized employee organization shall not include: (1) Both  
10 professional and other employees, unless a majority of the professional  
11 employees vote for inclusion in the organization; (2) uniform police  
12 employees and public property security guards with any other public  
13 employees, but such employees may form their own separate homogenous  
14 units; or (3) uniformed firemen with any other public employees, but such  
15 employees may form their own separate homogenous units. The  
16 employees of a public safety department of cities which has both police  
17 and fire protection duties shall be an appropriate unit.

18 (g) It is the intent of this act that employer-employee relations  
19 affecting the finances of a public employer shall be conducted at such  
20 times as will permit any resultant memorandum of agreement to be duly  
21 implemented in the budget preparation and adoption process. A public  
22 employer, during the 60 days immediately prior to its budget submission  
23 date, shall not be required to recognize an employee organization not  
24 previously recognized, nor shall it be obligated to initiate or begin meet  
25 and confer proceedings with any recognized employee organization for a  
26 period of 30 days before and 30 days after its budget submission date.

27 (h) No employee organization shall be recognized unless it  
28 establishes and maintains standards of conduct providing for: (1) The  
29 maintenance of democratic procedures and practices, including periodic  
30 elections by secret ballot and the fair and equal treatment of all members;  
31 and (2) the maintenance of fiscal integrity, including accurate accounting  
32 and periodic financial reports open to all members and the prohibition of  
33 business or financial interests by officers which conflict with their  
34 fiduciary responsibilities.

35 (i) The board shall assess the reasonable costs for conducting a secret  
36 ballot of the employees against the party seeking the election. For the  
37 purposes of this subsection, the term "costs" shall include amounts  
38 expended by the board for printing of ballots and necessary postage.

39 Sec. 6. K.S.A. 75-5501 is hereby amended to read as follows: 75-  
40 5501. (a) The director of accounts and reports shall formulate a system of  
41 payroll accounting, including timekeeping, payroll calculation and pay  
42 distribution-(, or delivery), and labor cost distribution and analysis, and  
43 shall install and operate such system of payroll accounting for all state

1 agencies. The system shall include provision for centralized records, which  
2 shall include payroll data for all individuals which with the common law  
3 employer-employee relationship is created by agencies of the state of  
4 Kansas and which shall be coordinated with records maintained by the  
5 division of personnel services and other state agencies. If biweekly payroll  
6 periods are established under K.S.A. 75-5501a, the system of payroll  
7 accounting shall be modified to implement such biweekly payroll periods.  
8 State agencies shall utilize the system of payroll accounting to the extent  
9 prescribed by the director of accounts and reports, and shall submit such  
10 reports and statements as may be required by the director in order to carry  
11 out the provisions of this act. The director of accounts and reports shall  
12 design, revise and direct the use of records and procedures and prescribe  
13 classifications of coding payroll data, methods of funding labor cost  
14 through the central payroll account and a system of prepayment and  
15 postpayment debit and credit transactions and entries on the records  
16 created from payroll data and the necessary forms to be used by all state  
17 agencies in connection with such system of payroll accounting. The  
18 payroll system so designed shall include generally accepted accounting  
19 principles of internal check, and may include timekeeping for attendance  
20 and performance, as prescribed in this act.

21 (b) The director of accounts and reports shall provide, as a part of the  
22 system of payroll accounting, a plan for the deduction from the salary or  
23 wages of an amount equal to regular membership dues for state officers  
24 and employees who are members of the Kansas troopers association or  
25 who are in any employee organization which has filed an annual report  
26 pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4337, *and amendments thereto*, or ~~which that~~ has a  
27 business agent registered pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4336, *and amendments*  
28 *thereto*. Such plan, in addition to such provisions as are negotiated by the  
29 director of accounts and reports and the employee organization, *and*  
30 *subject to the provisions of K.S.A. 75-4324, and amendments thereto*, shall  
31 provide for:

32 (1) A written authorization-assignment by a state officer or employee  
33 prior to any dues deduction from the salary or wages of such officer or  
34 employee, ~~which authorization-assignment shall remain effective for not~~  
35 ~~less than 180 days and shall be terminated at any time thereafter upon 30~~  
36 ~~days' prior notice by the state officer or employee of termination of the~~  
37 ~~authorization-assignment;~~

38 (2) change in the amount of regular membership dues to be deducted,  
39 but not more often than twice in any fiscal year;

40 (3) renewal of an authorization-assignment by an officer or employee  
41 after termination of a prior authorization-assignment upon 90 days' prior  
42 notice by the officer or employee who has terminated a membership dues  
43 deduction; and



1       (4) payment of all moneys deducted each payroll period pursuant to  
2 this section to the employee organization less the amount of actual direct  
3 expenses incurred by this state for the membership dues deduction.

4       Sec. 7. K.S.A. 44-319, 72-2219, 72-2241, 75-4324, 75-4327 and 75-  
5 5501 are hereby repealed.

6       Sec. 8. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its  
7 publication in the statute book.