

Senate Commerce Committee

Testimony Re: SB 212

March 12, 2015

Madam Chairperson and members of the Committee:

The Department of Administration is neutral with respect to the proposed amendments set forth in SB 212. The Department's sole responsibility with respect to the content of the bill is to enter and process deductions for employee organization dues from paychecks of State employees upon receipt of a signed request from the employee.

The Department of Administration also performs this function for charitable entities that have been granted statutory authority to have donations deducted through the State payroll. Employee organizations are the only non-governmental and non-charitable entities that are currently authorized to benefit from this service. State employees who wish to be members of or make donations to other types of organizations do not have this same option, so the proposed amendments would establish a more consistent policy for payroll deductions which the Department fully supports.

With respect to the impact of the bill, the proposed amendments would result in savings in the form of the staff time currently spent by Human Resources (HR) staff in entering and processing these deductions. Since the number of requests for deductions varies from week to week, the Department is unable to definitively identify the exact amount of savings that will be realized should this legislation be passed, but staff time devoted to this process is estimated to range between two to five hours per week.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

Jim Clark
Secretary of Administration