

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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127th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2015

Legislative Document

No. 404

H.P. 270

House of Representatives, February 12, 2015

**An Act To Prohibit Public Employers from Acting as Collection
Agents for Labor Unions**

Reference to the Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative LOCKMAN of Amherst.
Cosponsored by Senator WHITEMORE of Somerset and
Representatives: O'CONNOR of Berwick, REED of Carmel, SAWICKI of Auburn, SIROCKI
of Scarborough, STETKIS of Canaan, VACHON of Scarborough, WARD of Dedham,
Senator: BURNS of Washington.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 26 MRSA §629, sub-§4**, as repealed and replaced by PL 2007, c. 524, §1,
3 is amended to read:

4 **4. Deduction of service fees.** Public employers may not deduct service fees or
5 member dues owed by an employee to a collective bargaining agent from the employee's
6 pay, ~~without signed authorization from the employee, and remit those fees to the~~
7 ~~bargaining agent, as long as:~~

8 ~~A. The fee obligation arises from a lawfully executed and implemented collective~~
9 ~~bargaining agreement; and~~

10 ~~B. In the event a fee payor owes any arrears on the payor's fee obligations, the~~
11 ~~deduction authorized under this subsection may include an installment on a payment~~
12 ~~plan to reimburse all arrears, but may not exceed in each pay period 10% of the gross~~
13 ~~pay owed.~~

14 **SUMMARY**

15 Current law allows a public employer to deduct service fees owed by an employee to
16 a collective bargaining agent pursuant to a lawful collective bargaining agreement. This
17 bill prohibits a public employer from collecting those fees or collecting member dues.