AN ACT

To amend chapter 290, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to labor organizations, with an effective date and a referendum clause.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 290, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 290.591, to read as follows:

290.591. 1. All people shall be guaranteed the freedom to work without being required to join or pay dues to any labor organization as a condition or continuation of employment. To this end, subsections 2 and 3 of this section shall apply to labor organizations, employers, and employees.

2. Except in instances when this section conflicts with or is preempted by federal law, no person shall be required as a condition or continuation of employment to:

(1) Become or refrain from becoming a member of a labor organization;

(2) Pay any dues, fees, assessments, or other similar charges, however denominated, of any kind or amount to a labor organization; or

(3) Pay to any charity or other third party any amount equivalent to, or on a pro rata basis, any dues, fees, assessments, or other charges required of members of a labor organization, in lieu of the payments listed under subdivision (2) of this subsection.

3. Any agreement, understanding, or practice, written or oral, implied or expressed, between any labor organization and employer that violates the rights of employees as guaranteed under this section is declared to be unlawful, null and void, and of no legal effect.

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in bold-face type in the above bill is proposed language.
Section B. This act is hereby submitted to the qualified voters of this state for approval or rejection at an election which is hereby ordered and which shall be held and conducted on Tuesday next following the first Monday in August 2016, or at any other successor primary election date in 2016 as provided by law, pursuant to the laws and constitutional provisions of this state for the submission of referendum measures by the general assembly, and this act shall become effective when approved by a majority of the votes cast thereon at such election and not otherwise.

Section C. Pursuant to chapter 116, RSMo, and other applicable constitutional provisions and laws of this state allowing the general assembly to adopt ballot language for the submission of this referendum to the voters of this state, the official summary statement of this referendum shall be as follows:

"Shall Missouri law be amended to guarantee all people the freedom to work without being required to join or pay dues to any labor organization as a condition or continuation of employment?"

It is estimated this proposal will result in little or no costs or savings for state and local governmental entities.". 

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