

STATE OF NEW YORK

10835

IN ASSEMBLY

April 1, 2026

Introduced by M. of A. GRIFFIN -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Employees

AN ACT to amend the civil service law, in relation to prohibiting falsely impersonating an employee organization or employee organization representative

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. The civil service law is amended by adding a new section
2 216 to read as follows:

3 § 216. Falsely impersonating an employee organization or employee
4 organization representative. 1. Definitions. As used in this section,
5 the following terms shall have the following meanings:

6 (a) "Falsely impersonating an employee organization or employee organ-
7 ization representative" shall mean the knowing use of fraud or misrepre-
8 sentation to make and disseminate a verbal, written, or electronic
9 communication, with the intent to undermine or interfere with the oper-
10 ations of an employee organization, or otherwise negatively impact an
11 employee organization, and that purports to be authorized or otherwise
12 approved by such employee organization or employee organization repre-
13 sentative but that has not been authorized or approved by such employee
14 organization or employee organization representative.

15 (b) "Employee organization representative" shall mean any person
16 authorized by an employee organization, pursuant to its constitution,
17 bylaws or other internal rules or procedures, to act on behalf of such
18 employee organization.

19 2. No person shall falsely impersonate an employee organization or an
20 employee organization representative.

21 3. (a) An employee organization or an employee organization represen-
22 tative alleging a violation of this section may bring a civil action in
23 a court of competent jurisdiction to obtain damages.

24 (b) In addition to and not in lieu of any other damages that may be
25 claimed, an employee organization or an employee organization represen-
26 tative shall receive statutory damages in an amount of fifteen thousand
27 dollars per incident in any action in which such employee organization

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

LBD15363-01-6

1 or employee organization representative establishes that the defendant
2 has falsely impersonated an employee organization or an employee organ-
3 ization representative in violation of this section.

4 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.