

Joint Committee on Ways and Means

Carrier: Sen. Carter

Revenue: No revenue impact

Fiscal: Minimal fiscal impact, no statement issued

Action: Do Pass

Vote: 13 – 8 – 1

House

Yeas: Buckley, C. Edwards, D. Edwards, Galizio, Jenson, Kotek, Nathanson

Nays: Gilman, Garrard, Richardson, G. Smith

Exc: Shields

Senate

Yeas: Bates, Carter, Johnson, Monroe, Verger, Walker

Nays: Girod, Nelson, Whitsett, Winters

Exc:

Prepared By: Kim To, Legislative Fiscal Office

Meeting Date: 6/24

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Modifies the definition of “political matters” and “religious matters” as the terms relate to mandatory workplace communications to employee about employer’s opinions. The measure also clarifies the scope of immunity from adverse employment action against employees, as outlined in Senate Bill 519-A (2009).

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Effect of the “political matters” and “religious matters” revised definitions

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Senate Bill 519-A (2009) outlines specific employee and employer rights related to participation in employer-sponsored meetings or communications regarding religious or political matters. House Bill 3507 modifies the definitions of “political matters” to include activities related to political policy affiliation, campaigns for ballot measures, political candidates, and the decision of whether to join or support any lawful political or constituent group; and “religious matters” to include activities related to religious affiliation or the decision of whether to join or support a bona fide religious organization.