

Bill 29 used to move biomeds out of HEU

BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGISTS are no longer members of the Hospital Employees' Union as a result of a Labour Relations Board decision issued today.

While the LRB supported HEU's position that Biomeds be transferred to the paramedical professional bargaining association, it sided with B.C.'s health employers and the Health Sciences Association in ruling that HEU could not continue to represent these workers.

The Campbell Liberals' Bill 29 – the contract-shredding law passed in 2002 – was a key factor in the decision.

That's because the legislation also removed a provision in the Health Authorities Act that protected union representation rights in a situation where workers were transferred from one health care bargaining unit to another.

The union is studying the decision and is considering an appeal on the issue of union representation.

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