

SB 580 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Education

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Meeting Dates: 3/3, 3/10

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Expands definition of employment relations to include class size and case loads as mandatory subjects of collective bargaining for school districts.

REVENUE: May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued.

FISCAL: May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Public Employee Collective Bargaining Act (PECBA), enacted in 1973, codifies the laws governing employment relations between public employers and employees in the state, counties, cities, school districts, transportation districts, and other local governments, as well as private employers not subject to the jurisdiction of the National Labor Relations Board. Under PECBA, both the public employer and the labor organization are required to collectively bargain in good faith with respect to employment relations, which are defined as including, but not limited to, matters concerning direct or indirect monetary benefits, hours, vacations, sick leave, grievance procedures, and other conditions of employment. Subjects that are included within employment relations are mandatory subjects of bargaining. Other subjects may be bargained as long as there is mutual agreement to discuss these permissive subjects of bargaining. Since passage of Senate Bill 750 (1995), class size has been a permissive subject of bargaining. From 1989 until Senate Bill 750 went into effect, class size was a mandatory subject of bargaining. Prior to 1989, class size was a permissive subject of bargaining. Senate Bill 580 makes class size a mandatory subject of school district collective bargaining.