

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Without Recommendation as to Passage and Be Referred to the Committee on Ways and Means by Prior Reference
Vote:	5 - 0 - 2
Yeas:	Berger, Edwards C., Holvey, Rosenbaum, Schaufler
Nays:	0
Exc.:	Esquivel, Smith P.
Prepared By:	Theresa Van Winkle, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	1/22, 4/2

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Increases fee from \$100 to \$250 to file an answer with the Employment Relations Board in regards to unfair labor practice proceedings under public employees collective bargaining law. Establishes a fee of \$250 to file charges or an answer with the Board in other unfair labor practice proceedings, and to intervene in unfair labor practice proceedings. Creates the Employment Relations Board Administrative Account to deposit fees, and establishes the account to be used for payment of Board incurred expenses. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Workload of the Employment Relations Board
- Whether the current fee structure adequately funds the Board's operations

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: The Employment Relations Board (ERB) is responsible for resolving disputes concerning labor relations for Oregon's public and private companies, and employees and administering laws regarding employment relations. When a party files a complaint with the ERB, they must pay a \$250 fee while the respondent pays a \$100 fee. HB 2170 equalizes the difference in filing fees by increasing the respondents' fee to \$250.

Additional revenue generated by the fee increase will be used to fund hearings-related travel expenses and help fund an additional Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) position if the policy package is approved within the ERB's 2007-2009 biennium budget (SB 5511).