

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Do Pass and Be Placed on the Consent Calendar
Vote: 9 - 0 - 1
Yeas: Barton, Cowan, Gilliam, Krieger, Matthews, Tomei, Weidner, Wingard, Holvey
Nays: 0
Exc.: Riley
Prepared By: Victoria Cox, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 4/29

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires complainant to sign complaint alleging unlawful discrimination before submitting it to Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) for administrative investigation. Applies to complaints filed on or after effective date of Act.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Discrepancy between state and federal law
- Resulting increases in administrative expenses for BOLI

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: No amendment.

BACKGROUND: Current state law allows either a complainant or an attorney to sign a complaint alleging unlawful discrimination. Federal law, however, does not recognize complaints signed by attorneys on behalf of complainants. Because BOLI receives reimbursement for certain discrimination investigations that meet federal standards, additional administrative expenses are often incurred to obtain complainant signatures. By bringing state law in line with federal requirements, Senate Bill 56 eliminates the extra step that is currently required to meet federal standards.