

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: Fiscal statement issued

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	7 - 2 - 1
Yeas:	Barton, Holvey, Kenemer, Matthews, Thompson, Witt, Doherty
Nays:	Thatcher, Weidner
Exc.:	Fagan
Prepared By:	Jan Nordlund, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	2/22, 2/25, 4/1, 4/3

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Requires issue subject to collective bargaining during term of agreement that is not resolved through negotiation or mediation be resolved through binding arbitration. Requires matter be submitted for mediation before binding arbitration. Prohibits public employees from striking when issue subject to collective bargaining during term of agreement is subject to binding arbitration.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Cost and time to arbitrate
- Lack of dispute resolution process in expedited bargaining process
- Whether employer has incentive to bargain when allowed to implement change after 90 days
- Experience of arbitrators
- Whether mediation should be mandatory or permissible
- Appropriate length of time for expedited bargaining before binding arbitration begins

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Restores language specifying expedited bargaining period of 90 days. Refers unresolved matter to State Conciliation Service Office for mediation before binding arbitration.

BACKGROUND: Under the Public Employee Collective Bargaining Act, there is established an expedited bargaining process for when an employer wants to make a change in employment relations, which are subject to collective bargaining, in the current contract. If the labor organization demands to bargain, the statute prohibits the bargaining to continue past 90 days without the consent of both parties and provided both parties negotiated in good faith. House Bill 2448-A requires issues that are not resolved in the 90-day period be submitted to the State Conciliation Service for mediation and, if necessary, to the Employment Relations Board for binding arbitration. The mediation period is to last up to 15 days from the date of the first mediation session. The measure also specifies that the employees in the bargaining unit subject to the binding arbitration are not allowed to strike.

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This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.