## House Bill 2209

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Presession filed (at the request of Governor John A. Kitzhaber, M.D., for Oregon Department of Administrative Services)

## **SUMMARY**

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure as introduced.

Modifies restoration rights of certain state exempt and management service employees to classified position in state service held prior to appointment to exempt or management service position. Specifies that management service employees serve at pleasure of appointing agency director and may be disciplined or removed subject to certain due process requirements.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to certain positions in state service; creating new provisions; and amending ORS 240.560 and 240.570.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

**SECTION 1.** ORS 240.570 is amended to read:

- 240.570. (1) Positions in the unclassified, **exempt and** management [and exempt] services may be filled by classified employees. After an employee is terminated from the unclassified **service** [or exempt service or removed from the management service,] for reasons other than those specified in ORS 240.555, **or removed from the exempt or management service**, the state agency that employed the employee **in a classified service position** before the appointment to the unclassified, exempt or management service may, at the agency's sole discretion, restore the employee to a position held in the agency before the appointment if:
  - (a) The employee meets the position requirements; and
- (b) The position to which the employee is restored is a position that the employee held no more than one year prior to the appointment to the unclassified, exempt or management service.
- (2) If an employee is restored to a former position, the employee is subject to any applicable agency collective bargaining agreement.
- (3) Restoration rights apply only to an employee's initial appointment to the unclassified, exempt or management service from a classified service position.
- [(2) An appointing authority may assign, reassign and transfer management service employees for the good of the service and may remove employees from the management service due to reorganization or lack of work.]
- [(3)] (4) A management service employee is subject to a trial service period established pursuant to rules of the Personnel Division under ORS 240.250. Thereafter, the management service employee may be disciplined [by reprimand, salary reduction, suspension or demotion or removed from the management service if the employee is unable or unwilling to fully and faithfully perform the duties of the position satisfactorily.] or removed subject to procedures adopted by the Personnel Division under ORS 240.250 that are compatible with the requirements of due process of law.
  - (5) A management service employee serves at the pleasure of the agency director. If

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deemed appropriate by the agency director, principles of progressive discipline may be used when a management service employee is disciplined. A management service employee may be disciplined or removed by the agency director subject only to the provisions specified in subsection (4) of this section.

[(4)] (6) Employees who are [assigned, reassigned, transferred or removed, as provided in subsection (2) of this section, and employees who are disciplined or removed from the management service [for the reasons] in the manner specified in subsection [(3)] (5) of this section may appeal to the [Employment Relations Board in the manner provided by ORS 240.560] agency director in the manner specified in the rules adopted by the Personnel Division under ORS 240.250.

[(5) Management service employees with immediate prior former regular status in the classified service may be dismissed from state service only for reasons specified by ORS 240.555 and pursuant to the appeal procedures provided by ORS 240.560.]

**SECTION 2.** ORS 240.560 is amended to read:

240.560. (1) A [regular] classified, unrepresented employee who is reduced, dismissed, suspended or demoted[,] shall have the right to appeal to the Employment Relations Board not later than 30 days after the effective date of the reduction, dismissal, suspension or demotion. The appeal must be in writing. The appeal is timely if it is received by the board or postmarked, if mailed postpaid and properly addressed, not later than 30 days after the effective date of the reduction, dismissal, suspension or demotion. The board shall hear the appeal within 30 days after the board receives the appeal, unless the parties to the hearing agree to a postponement. The board shall furnish the **Personnel** Division of the service concerned with a copy of the appeal in advance of the hearing.

- (2) The hearing shall be conducted as provided for a contested case in ORS chapter 183.
- (3) If the board finds that the action complained of was taken by the appointing authority for any political, religious or racial reasons, or because of sex, marital status or age, the employee shall be reinstated to the position and shall not suffer any loss in pay.
- (4) In all other cases, if the board finds that the action was not taken in good faith for cause, it shall order the immediate reinstatement and the reemployment of the employee in the position without the loss of pay. In lieu of affirming the action, the board may modify the action by directing a suspension without pay for a given period, and a subsequent restoration to duty, or a demotion in classification, grade or pay. The findings and order of the board shall be certified in writing to the appointing authority and shall be forthwith put into effect by the appointing authority.

<u>SECTION 3.</u> The amendments to ORS 240.570 by section 1 of this 2013 Act apply to persons appointed from the classified service to fill exempt or management service positions on or after the effective date of this 2013 Act.