

HB 2263 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Workforce

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Sub-Referral To: Joint Committee On Ways and Means

Meeting Dates: 5/3, 5/8

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Increases maximum fees for mediation sessions conducted by mediator assigned by Employment Relations Board to \$625 for third mediation session and lowers maximum fee to \$625 for fourth mediation session. Allows Board to establish fee for providing labor relations and negotiation training.

- No fiscal impact; no revenue impact
- House vote: 48-8

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Current rates for Employment Relations Board mediation services permissible by statute
- Need for third mediation session is uncommon
- Flattening fees simplifies fee structure and neutralizes cost changes to parties

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Employment Relations Board (ERB) resolves disputes concerning labor relations for an estimated 3,000 different employers and 250,000 employees under its jurisdiction in the public and private sector. The three-member Board administers the collective bargaining law that covers public employees of the State of Oregon and its cities, counties, school districts, and other local governments; hears and decides appeals from state employees concerning personnel actions; and administers the collective bargaining law that regulates private employers not covered by the National Labor Relations Act.

The Board may charge a fee for mediation services to resolve a labor dispute or labor controversy. The mediation fee is evenly split by the parties. Maximum fees are set in statute: \$1,000 for the first two mediation sessions, \$500 for the third, \$750 for the fourth, and \$1,000 for each additional session. House Bill 2263 sets the maximum fee for the third and fourth sessions at \$625 each, which is an increase for the third session and an equal decrease for the fourth session.