

## **HB 2264 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

### **Joint Committee On Ways and Means**

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**Prepared By:** John Borden, Budget Analyst

**Meeting Dates:** 5/30, 6/2

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#### **WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Increases application fee for inclusion on the Employment Relations Board's State Conciliation Service list of qualified arbitrators from \$50 to \$100. Increases annual fee to remain on list of qualified arbitrators from \$100 to \$150.

#### **ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Discussion of the dollar amount and timing differences between the application vs. the renewal fee
- Discussion of the linkage to HB 5008 - ERB's primary budget measure

#### **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. ERB does not employ arbitrators; however the agency does maintain a list of qualified arbitrators from which parties may choose. The parties themselves pay the cost of the arbitrator at rate established by the arbitrator.

Statute requires the ERB to charge arbitrators a fee to be on the list of qualified arbitrators. Under current law, the initial fee is \$50 and the annual fee thereafter is \$100. These fees have not been changed since they were established in 2007. ERB reports receiving approximately six new applicants each biennium and charges approximately 74 arbitrators an annual fee. ERB fee revenues support approximately four percent of agency operations with General Fund and a state agency assessment supporting the remainder. The additional fee revenue generated by this measure is anticipated in ERB's primary budget measure (HB 5008).