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**Joint Committee on
Ways and Means**

Sen. Richard Devlin, Senate Co-Chair
Rep. Nancy Nathanson, House Co-Chair

Sen. Betsy Johnson, Senate Co-Vice Chair
Sen. Jackie Winters, Senate Co-Vice Chair
Rep. Dan Rayfield, House Co-Vice Chair
Rep. Greg Smith, House Co-Vice Chair

To: Ways and Means Full Committee

From: General Government Subcommittee

Re: HB 5008 Employment Relations Board

Representative Smith: "HB 5008 is the budget bill for the Employment Relations Board. ERB's mission is to resolve disputes concerning labor relations. ERB provides four main services to help employers, employees, and labor organizations resolve their disputes: (1) labor mediation and training; (2) contested case hearings; (3) union representation elections; and (4) labor appeal cases.

The General Government Subcommittee approved a total budget of \$5 million, which includes a General Fund budget of \$2.5 million and an Other Funds budget of \$2.5 million. The budget includes 13 positions (13.00 FTE). The budget is a \$507,895, or 11.2%, increase from the 2015-17 legislatively approved budget.

The budget provides continued funding for a private vendor to develop electronic filing for a case management system that is under development; Department of Administrative Services approved compensation changes for the three Board members as well as a reclassification of the Board's office manager; and a one-time fund shift of \$250,000 General Fund to fee revenue. The Subcommittee approved the Board's key performance measures and targets.

The General Government Subcommittee recommends HB 5008 be amended by the -2 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended."