

## HB 2263 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

### House Committee On Business and Labor

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**Prepared By:** Jan Nordlund, LPRO Analyst

**Sub-Referral To:** Joint Committee On Ways and Means

**Meeting Dates:** 2/1, 2/8

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#### WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

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

#### ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Training provided by Employment Relations Board
- Importance of third-party mediation to resolving disputes

#### 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 in public and private sector under its jurisdiction. 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. More specifically, the Board directs agency programs, hears oral arguments; hears expedited unfair labor practice complaints; issues final board orders, declaratory rulings and orders for representation costs and attorney fees; adopts rules; responds to public inquiries; conducts studies on public employment labor-management relations and may recommend legislation.

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.