

HB 2573 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Business and Labor

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Meeting Dates: 1/25

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires Employment Relations Board to develop guidelines and procedures for authorizations designating bargaining representatives of bargaining unit to be prepared and signed electronically. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

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. ERB 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 who are not covered by the National Labor Relations Act.

ERB is required to develop, by rule, guidelines and procedures for authorizations designating bargaining representatives of bargaining unit. Amongst the items that the guidelines and procedures must include are model collective bargaining authorization language that may be used for purposes of making the designations; procedures to be used by the board to establish the authenticity of signed authorizations designating bargaining representatives; and procedures to be used by the board to notify affected employees of the filing of a petition requesting certification.

House Bill 2573 adds to the requirement that ERB develop procedures that may be used for preparing and signing authorizations designating bargaining representatives using an electronic record and an electronic signature.