

House Bill 4011

Introduced and printed pursuant to House Rule 12.00. Presession filed (at the request of House Interim Committee on Labor and Workforce Development for Oregon Education Association)

SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act would make changes to laws with respect to school district collective bargaining. (Flesch Readability Score: 65.7).

Expands the requirement to discuss class size and caseload as mandatory subjects of bargaining for purposes of school district collective bargaining.

A BILL FOR AN ACT

Relating to mandatory subjects of collective bargaining for school districts; amending ORS 243.650.

Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:

SECTION 1. ORS 243.650 is amended to read:

243.650. As used in ORS 243.650 to 243.809, unless the context requires otherwise:

(1) "Appropriate bargaining unit" means the unit designated by the Employment Relations Board or voluntarily recognized by the public employer to be appropriate for collective bargaining. However, an appropriate bargaining unit may not include both academically licensed and unlicensed or nonacademically licensed school employees. Academically licensed units may include but are not limited to teachers, nurses, counselors, therapists, psychologists, child development specialists and similar positions. This limitation does not apply to any bargaining unit certified or recognized prior to June 6, 1995, or to any school district with fewer than 50 employees.

(2) "Board" means the Employment Relations Board.

(3) "Certification" means official recognition by the board that a labor organization is the exclusive representative for all of the employees in the appropriate bargaining unit.

(4) "Collective bargaining" means the performance of the mutual obligation of a public employer and the representative of its employees to meet at reasonable times and confer in good faith with respect to employment relations for the purpose of negotiations concerning mandatory subjects of bargaining, to meet and confer in good faith in accordance with law with respect to any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of a collective bargaining agreement, and to execute written contracts incorporating agreements that have been reached on behalf of the public employer and the employees in the bargaining unit covered by such negotiations. The obligation to meet and negotiate does not compel either party to agree to a proposal or require the making of a concession. This subsection may not be construed to prohibit a public employer and a certified or recognized representative of its employees from discussing or executing written agreements regarding matters other than mandatory subjects of bargaining that are not prohibited by law as long as there is mutual agreement of the parties to discuss these matters, which are permissive subjects of bargaining.

(5) "Compulsory arbitration" means the procedure whereby parties involved in a labor dispute are required by law to submit their differences to a third party for a final and binding decision.

NOTE: Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.

1 (6) "Confidential employee" means one who assists and acts in a confidential capacity to a per-
 2 son who formulates, determines and effectuates management policies in the area of collective bar-
 3 gaining.

4 (7)(a) "Employment relations" includes, but is not limited to, matters concerning direct or indi-
 5 rect monetary benefits, hours, vacations, sick leave, labor organization access to and communication
 6 with represented employees, grievance procedures and other conditions of employment.

7 (b) "Employment relations" does not include subjects determined to be permissive, nonmanda-
 8 tory subjects of bargaining by the Employment Relations Board prior to June 6, 1995.

9 (c) After June 6, 1995, "employment relations" does not include subjects that the Employment
 10 Relations Board determines to have a greater impact on management's prerogative than on employee
 11 wages, hours, or other terms and conditions of employment.

12 (d) "Employment relations" does not include subjects that have an insubstantial or de minimis
 13 effect on public employee wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment.

14 (e) For school district bargaining:

15 (A) "Employment relations" includes class size and caseload limits [*in schools that qualify for*
 16 *assistance under Title I of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965*].

17 (B) "Employment relations" excludes the school or educational calendar, standards of perform-
 18 ance or criteria for evaluation of teachers, the school curriculum, reasonable dress, grooming and
 19 at-work personal conduct requirements respecting smoking, gum chewing and similar matters of
 20 personal conduct, the standards and procedures for student discipline, the time between student
 21 classes, the selection, agendas and decisions of 21st Century Schools Councils established under ORS
 22 329.704, requirements for expressing milk under ORS 653.077, and any other subject proposed that
 23 is permissive under paragraphs (b), (c) and (d) of this subsection.

24 (f) For employee bargaining involving employees covered by ORS 243.736 and employees of the
 25 Department of Corrections who have direct contact with adults in custody, "employment relations"
 26 includes safety issues that have an impact on the on-the-job safety of the employees or staffing levels
 27 that have a significant impact on the on-the-job safety of the employees.

28 (g) For all other employee bargaining except school district bargaining and except as provided
 29 in paragraph (f) of this subsection, "employment relations" excludes staffing levels and safety issues
 30 (except those staffing levels and safety issues that have a direct and substantial effect on the on-
 31 the-job safety of public employees), scheduling of services provided to the public, determination of
 32 the minimum qualifications necessary for any position, criteria for evaluation or performance ap-
 33 praisal, assignment of duties, workload when the effect on duties is insubstantial, reasonable dress,
 34 grooming, and at-work personal conduct requirements respecting smoking, gum chewing, and similar
 35 matters of personal conduct at work, and any other subject proposed that is permissive under par-
 36 agraphs (b), (c) and (d) of this subsection.

37 (8) "Exclusive representative" means the labor organization that, as a result of certification by
 38 the board or recognition by the employer, has the right to be the collective bargaining agent of all
 39 employees in an appropriate bargaining unit.

40 (9) "Fact-finding" means identification of the major issues in a particular labor dispute by one
 41 or more impartial individuals who review the positions of the parties, resolve factual differences and
 42 make recommendations for settlement of the dispute.

43 (10) "Fair-share agreement" means an agreement between the public employer and the recog-
 44 nized or certified bargaining representative of public employees whereby employees who are not
 45 members of the employee organization are required to make an in-lieu-of-dues payment to an em-

1 employee organization except as provided in ORS 243.666. Upon the filing with the board of a petition
 2 by 30 percent or more of the employees in an appropriate bargaining unit covered by such union
 3 security agreement declaring they desire that the agreement be rescinded, the board shall take a
 4 secret ballot of the employees in the unit and certify the results thereof to the recognized or certi-
 5 fied bargaining representative and to the public employer. Unless a majority of the votes cast in an
 6 election favor the union security agreement, the board shall certify deauthorization of the agree-
 7 ment. A petition for deauthorization of a union security agreement must be filed not more than 90
 8 calendar days after the collective bargaining agreement is executed. Only one such election may be
 9 conducted in any appropriate bargaining unit during the term of a collective bargaining agreement
 10 between a public employer and the recognized or certified bargaining representative.

11 (11) "Final offer" means the proposed contract language and cost summary submitted to the
 12 mediator within seven days of the declaration of impasse.

13 (12) "Labor dispute" means any controversy concerning employment relations or concerning the
 14 association or representation of persons in negotiating, fixing, maintaining, changing, or seeking to
 15 arrange terms or conditions of employment relations, regardless of whether the disputants stand in
 16 the proximate relation of employer and employee.

17 (13) "Labor organization" means any organization that has as one of its purposes representing
 18 employees in their employment relations with public employers.

19 (14) "Last best offer package" means the offer exchanged by parties not less than 14 days prior
 20 to the date scheduled for an interest arbitration hearing.

21 (15) "Legislative body" means the Legislative Assembly, the city council, the county commission
 22 and any other board or commission empowered to levy taxes.

23 (16) "Managerial employee" means an employee of the State of Oregon or a public university
 24 listed in ORS 352.002 who possesses authority to formulate and carry out management decisions or
 25 who represents management's interest by taking or effectively recommending discretionary actions
 26 that control or implement employer policy, and who has discretion in the performance of these
 27 management responsibilities beyond the routine discharge of duties. A "managerial employee" need
 28 not act in a supervisory capacity in relation to other employees. Notwithstanding this subsection,
 29 "managerial employee" does not include faculty members at a community college, college or uni-
 30 versity.

31 (17) "Mediation" means assistance by an impartial third party in reconciling a labor dispute
 32 between the public employer and the exclusive representative regarding employment relations.

33 (18) "Payment-in-lieu-of-dues" means an assessment to defray the cost for services by the exclu-
 34 sive representative in negotiations and contract administration of all persons in an appropriate
 35 bargaining unit who are not members of the organization serving as exclusive representative of the
 36 employees. The payment must be equivalent to regular union dues and assessments, if any, or must
 37 be an amount agreed upon by the public employer and the exclusive representative of the employees.

38 (19) "Public employee" means an employee of a public employer but does not include elected
 39 officials, persons appointed to serve on boards or commissions, incarcerated persons working under
 40 Article I, section 41, of the Oregon Constitution, or persons who are confidential employees, super-
 41 visory employees or managerial employees.

42 (20) "Public employer" means the State of Oregon, and the following political subdivisions:
 43 Cities, counties, community colleges, school districts, special districts, mass transit districts, metro-
 44 politan service districts, public service corporations or municipal corporations and public and
 45 quasi-public corporations.

(21) "Public employer representative" includes any individual or individuals specifically designated by the public employer to act in its interests in all matters dealing with employee representation, collective bargaining and related issues.

(22) "Strike" means a public employee's refusal in concerted action with others to report for duty, or his or her willful absence from his or her position, or his or her stoppage of work, or his or her absence in whole or in part from the full, faithful or proper performance of his or her duties of employment, for the purpose of inducing, influencing or coercing a change in the conditions, compensation, rights, privileges or obligations of public employment; however, nothing shall limit or impair the right of any public employee to lawfully express or communicate a complaint or opinion on any matter related to the conditions of employment.

(23)(a) "Supervisory employee" means any individual having authority in the interest of the employer to hire, transfer, suspend, lay off, recall, promote, discharge, assign, reward or discipline other employees, or responsibly to direct them, or to adjust their grievances, or effectively to recommend such action, if in connection therewith, the exercise of the authority is not of a merely routine or clerical nature but requires the use of independent judgment. Failure to assert supervisory status in any Employment Relations Board proceeding or in negotiations for any collective bargaining agreement does not thereafter prevent assertion of supervisory status in any subsequent board proceeding or contract negotiation.

(b) "Supervisory employee" includes:

(A) A faculty member of a public university listed in ORS 352.002 or the Oregon Health and Science University who:

(i) Is employed as a president, vice president, provost, vice provost, dean, associate dean, assistant dean, head or equivalent position; or

(ii) Is employed in an administrative position without a reasonable expectation of teaching, research or other scholarly accomplishments.

(B) A guard at a correctional institution or mental hospital or a police officer who serves in the rank of lieutenant or higher except for those lieutenant guards or police officers who were included in an appropriate bargaining unit for purposes of collective bargaining on or before April 4, 2024.

(C) An employee of the Criminal Justice Division of the Department of Justice who manages police officers of the division.

(c) "Supervisory employee" does not include:

(A) A nurse, charge nurse or nurse holding a similar position if that position has not traditionally been classified as supervisory;

(B) A firefighter or an emergency communications worker prohibited from striking by ORS 243.736 who assigns, transfers or directs the work of other employees but does not have the authority to hire, discharge or impose economic discipline on those employees;

(C) A guard at a correctional institution or mental hospital or a police officer who:

(i) Serves in a rank equivalent to or below the rank of sergeant;

(ii) Is prohibited from striking by ORS 243.736; and

(iii) Assigns, transfers or directs the work of other employees but does not have the authority to hire, discharge or impose economic discipline on those employees;

(D) A faculty member of a public university listed in ORS 352.002 or the Oregon Health and Science University who is not a faculty member described in paragraph (b) of this subsection; or

(E) An employee of the Oregon State Police who:

(i) Serves in a rank equivalent to or below the rank of sergeant;

1 (ii) Is prohibited from striking by ORS 243.736; and

2 (iii) Assigns, transfers or directs the work of other employees but does not hire, discharge or
3 impose economic discipline on those employees.

4 (24) "Unfair labor practice" means the commission of an act designated an unfair labor practice
5 in ORS 243.672.

6 (25) "Voluntary arbitration" means the procedure whereby parties involved in a labor dispute
7 mutually agree to submit their differences to a third party for a final and binding decision.

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