

HB 1829 -- Collective Bargaining for Public Employees

Sponsor: Walsh

This bill establishes the Public Employee Bargaining Act which allows public employees to form, join, or assist a labor organization for the purpose of collective bargaining through representatives chosen by the employees without interference, restraint, or coercion and the right to refuse any of these activities. In its main provisions, the bill:

- (1) Establishes the Public Employment Relations Board within the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations consisting of three members appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. Requirements for membership, terms of office, and the duties and powers of the board are specified in the bill;
- (2) Specifies that a board-certified labor organization representing public employees will be the exclusive representative of all public employees in the bargaining unit except that an individual public employee may present a grievance without the organization's intervention at a hearing held for that purpose;
- (3) Specifies the obligations and prohibitions regarding the activities of employees, employers, and certified labor organizations including negotiation, mediation, and resolution of labor disputes; and
- (4) Repeals the provisions regarding collective bargaining agreements between government employees and public bodies.