

Amendment No. 1129

Assembly Amendment to Assembly Bill No. 568

(BDR 23-1476)

Proposed by: Committee on Government Affairs**Amendment Box:****Resolves Conflicts with:** N/A**Amends:** Summary: Yes Title: Yes Preamble: No Joint Sponsorship: No Digest: No

| ASSEMBLY ACTION | Initial and Date | SENATE ACTION | Initial and Date |
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Amend the bill as a whole by deleting sections 1 through 7 and adding new sections designated sections 1 through 46, following the enacting clause, to read as follows:

“**Section 1.** Title 23 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new chapter to consist of the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 40, inclusive, of this act.

Sec. 2. *As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in sections 3 to 15, inclusive, of this act have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.*

Sec. 3. *“Arbitration” means a process of dispute resolution where the parties involved in an impasse or grievance dispute submit their dispute to a third party for a final and binding decision.*

Sec. 4. *“Board” means the Public Employment Relations Board created pursuant to NRS 288.080.*

WLK

Date: 6/1/2005

A.B. No. 568—Revises provisions related to representation of bargaining unit by employee organization.

Sec. 5. “Confidential employee” means an employee who provides administrative support to an employee who assists in the formulation, determination and effectuation of personnel policies or managerial policies concerning discussions of workplace relations or supplemental discussions of workplace relations.

Sec. 6. “Discussions of workplace relations” means a method to determine the terms and conditions of employment for all employees within a workplace relations unit through negotiation, mediation or arbitration between the Executive Department and the exclusive representative of the workplace relations unit pursuant to this chapter.

Sec. 7. 1. “Employee” means a person who:

(a) Is employed in the classified service of the State pursuant to chapter 284 of NRS, including, without limitation, persons employed in the classified service by the University and Community College System of Nevada; or

(b) Is employed by the Public Employees’ Retirement System and who is required to be paid in accordance with the pay plan for the classified service of the State.

2. The term does not include:

(a) A managerial employee whose primary function, as determined by the Board, is to administer and control the business of any agency, board, bureau, commission, department, division, elected officer or any other unit of the Executive Department and who is vested with discretion and independent judgment with regard to the general conduct and control of that agency, board, bureau, commission, department, division, elected officer or unit;

(b) An elected official and any person appointed to fill a vacancy in an elected office;

(c) A confidential employee;

- (d) A temporary employee who is employed for a fixed period of 4 months or less;*
- (e) A commissioned officer and an enlisted member of the Nevada National Guard;*
- (f) A justice of the Supreme Court and a judge of a district court;*
- (g) Inmates of state institutions even though they may be receiving compensation for services performed for the institution; and*
- (h) Any person employed by the Legislature.*

Sec. 8. *“Exclusive representative” means an employee organization that, as a result of designation by the Board, has the exclusive right to represent all employees within a workplace relations unit and to negotiate with the Executive Department pursuant to this chapter concerning the terms and conditions of employment for those employees.*

Sec. 9. *“Executive Department” means an agency, board, bureau, commission, department, division, elected officer or any other unit of the Executive Department of State Government.*

Sec. 10. *“Grievance” means an act, omission or occurrence which an employee or the exclusive representative feels constitutes an injustice relating to any condition arising out of the relationship between an employer and an employee, including, without limitation, working hours, working conditions, membership in an organization of employees or the interpretation of any law, regulation or disagreement.*

Sec. 11. *“Mediation” means assistance by an impartial third party to reconcile differences between the Executive Department and an exclusive representative through interpretation, suggestion and advice.*

Sec. 12. *“Professional employee” means an employee engaged in work that:*

- 1. Is predominately intellectual and varied in character as opposed to routine mental, manual, mechanical or physical work;*
- 2. Involves the consistent exercise of discretion and judgment in its performance;*
- 3. Is of such a character that the result accomplished or produced cannot be standardized in relation to a given period; and*
- 4. Requires advanced knowledge in a field of science or learning customarily acquired through a prolonged course of specialized intellectual instruction and study in an institution of higher learning, as distinguished from general academic education, an apprenticeship or training in the performance of routine mental or physical processes.*

Sec. 13. “Supervisory employee” means an employee who has authority to:

- 1. Hire, transfer, suspend, lay off, recall, promote, discharge, assign, reward or discipline other employees, or who has the responsibility to direct such employees; or*
- 2. Adjust the grievances of other employees or effectively recommend such an action, if the exercise of that authority requires the use of independent judgment and is not of a routine or clerical nature.*

↪ The exercise of such authority shall not be deemed to place the employee in supervisory employee status unless the exercise of such authority occupies a significant portion of the employee’s workday. Nothing in this section may be construed to mean that an employee who has been given incidental administrative duties is classified as a supervisory employee.

Sec. 14. “Terms and conditions of employment” includes, without limitation:

- 1. Hours and working conditions;*
- 2. Grievances;*

3. Discipline and discharge; and

4. Any other term or condition of employment that does not require an appropriation from the Legislature to be given effect.

Sec. 15. "Workplace relations unit" means a collection of employees that the Board has established as a workplace relations unit pursuant to section 25 of this act.

Sec. 16. 1. The Legislature hereby finds and declares that there is a great need to:

(a) Promote orderly and constructive relations between the State and its employees; and

(b) Increase the efficiency of State Government.

2. It is therefore within the public interest that the Legislature enact provisions:

(a) Granting certain state employees the right to associate with others in organizing and choosing representatives for the purpose of discussing workplace relations;

(b) Requiring the State to recognize, negotiate and discuss workplace relations with employee organizations that represent state employees and to enter into written agreements evidencing the result of discussions of workplace relations; and

(c) Establishing standards and procedures that protect the rights of state employees, the Executive Department and the people of the State.

Sec. 17. 1. The Board may make rules governing:

(a) Proceedings before it;

(b) Procedures for fact-finding;

(c) The recognition of exclusive representatives;

(d) The determination of workplace relations units; and

(e) Such other rules as are necessary for the Board to carry out its duties pursuant to this chapter.

2. The Board may hear and determine any complaint arising out of the interpretation of, or performance under, the provisions of this chapter by the Executive Department, an employee or an exclusive representative. The Board shall conduct a hearing within 90 days after it decides to hear a complaint. The Board, after a hearing, if it finds that the complaint is well taken, may order any person to refrain from the action complained of or to restore to the party aggrieved any benefit of which he has been deprived by that action. The Board shall issue its decision within 120 days after the hearing on the complaint is completed.

3. Any party aggrieved by the failure of any person to obey an order of the Board issued pursuant to subsection 2, or the Board at the request of such party, may apply to a court of competent jurisdiction for a prohibitory or mandatory injunction to enforce the order.

4. The Board may not consider any complaint or appeal filed more than 6 months after the occurrence which is the subject of the complaint or appeal.

5. The Board may decide without a hearing a contested matter:

(a) In which all of the legal issues have been previously decided by the Board, if it adopts its previous decision or decisions as precedent; or

(b) Upon agreement of all the parties.

6. The Board may award reasonable costs, which may include attorneys' fees, to the prevailing party.

Sec. 18. 1. For the purpose of hearing and deciding appeals or complaints, the Board may issue subpoenas requiring the attendance of witnesses before it, together with all books,

memoranda, papers and other documents relative to the matters under investigation, administer oaths and take testimony thereunder.

2. The district court in and for the county in which any hearing is being conducted by the Board may compel the attendance of witnesses, the giving of testimony and the production of books and papers as required by any subpoena issued by the Board.

3. In the case of the refusal of any witness to attend or testify or produce any papers required by such subpoena, the Board may report to the district court in and for the county in which the hearing is pending by petition, setting forth:

(a) That due notice has been given of the time and place of attendance of the witness or the production of the books and papers;

(b) That the witness has been subpoenaed in the manner prescribed in this chapter; and

(c) That the witness has failed and refused to attend or produce the papers required by subpoena before the Board in the hearing named in the subpoena, or has refused to answer questions propounded to him in the course of such hearing,

↪ and asking an order of the court compelling the witness to attend and testify or produce the books or papers before the Board.

4. The court, upon petition of the Board, shall enter an order directing the witness to appear before the court at a time and place to be fixed by the court in such order, the time to be not more than 10 days after the date of the order, and then and there show cause why he has not attended or testified or produced the books or papers before the Board. A certified copy of the order shall be served upon the witness. If it appears to the court that the subpoena was regularly issued by the Board, the court shall thereupon enter an order that the witness appear before the Board at the

time and place fixed in the order and testify or produce the required books or papers, and upon failure to obey the order the witness shall be dealt with as for contempt of court.

Sec. 19. Every hearing and determination of an appeal or complaint by the Board is a contested case subject to the provisions of law which govern the administrative decision and judicial review of such cases.

Sec. 20. 1. For the purposes of discussions of workplace relations, supplemental discussions of workplace relations and other mutual aid or protection, employees have the right to:

(a) Organize, form, join and assist employee organizations, engage in discussions of workplace relations and supplemental discussions of workplace relations through exclusive representatives and engage in other concerted activities; and

(b) Refrain from engaging in such activity.

2. Discussions of workplace relations and supplemental discussions of workplace relations entail a mutual obligation of the Executive Department and an exclusive representative to meet at reasonable times and to discuss workplace relations in good faith with respect to:

(a) The terms and conditions of employment;

(b) The negotiation of an agreement;

(c) The resolution of any question arising under an agreement; and

(d) The execution of a written contract incorporating the provisions of an agreement, if requested by either party.

Sec. 21. 1. Each workplace relations agreement must be in writing and must include, without limitation:

(a) A procedure to resolve grievances which culminates in final and binding arbitration; and

(b) A provision which provides that an officer of the Executive Department may, upon written authorization by an employee within the workplace relations unit, withhold a sufficient amount of money from the salary or wages of the employee pursuant to NRS 281.129 to pay dues or similar fees to the exclusive representative of the workplace relations unit.

2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, the procedure to resolve grievances required in an agreement pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1 is the exclusive means available for resolving grievances related to the administration of the agreement.

3. An employee in a workplace relations unit may pursue a grievance related to any disciplinary action taken against him by his employer through the procedure:

(a) Provided in the agreement pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1; or

(b) Any procedure available to him pursuant to the provisions of chapter 284 of NRS, but once the employee has properly filed his grievance pursuant to paragraph (a) or (b), he may not proceed to file his grievance in the alternative manner.

4. In the event of a conflict between a provision of an agreement between the Executive Department and an exclusive representative and:

(a) Any regulation adopted by the Executive Department, the provisions of the agreement prevail unless the provisions of the agreement are outside of the lawful scope of discussions of workplace relations.

(b) An existing statute, the provision of the agreement may not be given effect unless the Legislature amends the existing statute in such a way as to eliminate the conflict.

Sec. 22. 1. It is a prohibited practice for the Executive Department or its designated representative willfully to:

(a) Refuse to engage in discussions of workplace relations or otherwise fail to discuss workplace relations in good faith with an exclusive representative, including, without limitation, refusing to engage in mediation or arbitration.

(b) Interfere with, restrain or coerce an employee in the exercise of any right guaranteed pursuant to this chapter.

(c) Dominate, interfere with or assist in the formation or administration of an employee organization.

(d) Discriminate in regard to hiring, tenure or any terms and conditions of employment to encourage or discourage membership in an employee organization.

(e) Discharge or otherwise discriminate against an employee because the employee has:

(1) Signed or filed an affidavit, petition or complaint or has provided any information or given any testimony pursuant to this chapter; or

(2) Formed, joined or chosen to be represented by an employee organization.

(f) Discriminate because of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, national origin, or political or personal reasons or affiliations.

(g) Deny rights accompanying a designation as an exclusive representative.

2. It is a prohibited practice for an employee organization or its designated agent willfully to:

(a) When acting as an exclusive representative, refuse to engage in discussions of workplace relations or otherwise fail to discuss workplace relations in good faith with the Executive Department, including, without limitation, refusing to engage in mediation or arbitration.

(b) Interfere with, restrain or coerce an employee in the exercise of any right guaranteed pursuant to this chapter.

(c) Discriminate because of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, national origin, or political or personal reasons or affiliations.

Sec. 23. 1. *To establish that a party committed a prohibited practice in violation of section 22 of this act, the party aggrieved by the practice must:*

(a) File a complaint with the Board not later than 6 months after the alleged prohibited practice occurred; and

(b) Send a copy of the complaint to the other party by certified mail, return receipt requested, or by any other method authorized by the Board.

2. *Not later than 10 days after receiving a complaint pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 1, a party shall file a response to the complaint with the Board.*

3. *The Board shall conduct a preliminary investigation of the complaint. Based on its investigation:*

(a) If the Board determines that the complaint has no basis in law or fact, the Board must dismiss the complaint.

(b) If the Board determines that the complaint may have a basis in law or fact, the Board must order a hearing to be conducted in accordance with:

(1) The provisions of chapter 233B of NRS that apply to a contested case; and

(2) The rules established by the Board pursuant to section 17 of this act.

4. *If the Board finds at the hearing that the party accused in the complaint has committed a prohibited practice, the Board:*

(a) Shall order the party to cease and desist from engaging in the prohibited practice; and

(b) May order any other affirmative relief that is necessary to remedy the prohibited practice.

5. The Board may petition the district court for enforcement of its orders.

6. Any order or decision issued by the Board pursuant to this section concerning the merits of a complaint is a final decision in a contested case and may be appealed pursuant to the provisions of chapter 233B of NRS that apply to a contested case, except that a party aggrieved by the order or decision of the Board must file a petition for judicial review not later than 10 days after being served with the order or decision of the Board.

Sec. 24. 1. The Board may appoint a hearing officer to conduct a hearing which may be conducted by the Board pursuant to section 23 of this act.

2. A decision of the hearing officer may be appealed to the Board.

3. On appeal to the Board, the Board may consider the record of the hearing or conduct a hearing de novo. A hearing de novo conducted by the Board must be conducted in accordance with:

(a) The provisions of chapter 233B of NRS that apply to a contested case; and

(b) The rules established by the Board pursuant to section 17 of this act.

4. If the Board finds at the hearing that the party accused in the complaint has committed a prohibited practice, the Board:

(a) Shall order the party to cease and desist from engaging in the prohibited practice; and

(b) May order any other affirmative relief that is necessary to remedy the prohibited practice.

5. The Board may petition the district court for enforcement of its orders.

6. Any order or decision issued by the Board pursuant to this section concerning the merits of a complaint is a final decision in a contested case and may be appealed pursuant to the provisions of chapter 233B of NRS that apply to a contested case, except that a party aggrieved by the order

or decision of the Board must file a petition for judicial review not later than 10 days after being served with the order or decision of the Board.

Sec. 25. 1. The Board shall, in accordance with the rules established pursuant to section 17 of this act, establish workplace relations units on a statewide basis, including, without limitation, the workplace relations units described in subsection 2.

2. The Board shall establish one workplace relations unit for each of the following occupational groups, and each such workplace relations unit must include all supervisory employees at the working level of the occupational group:

(a) Labor, maintenance, custodial and institutional employees, including, without limitation, employees of penal and correctional institutions who are not responsible for security at those institutions.

(b) Administrative and clerical employees, including, without limitation, paralegals and employees whose work involves general office work, or keeping or examining records and accounts.

(c) Technical aides to professional employees, including, without limitation, computer programmers, tax examiners, conservation employees and crew supervisors.

(d) Professional employees, including, without limitation, physical therapists and other employees in medical and other professions related to health.

(e) Employees, other than professional employees, who provide health care and personal care, including, without limitation, employees who care for children.

(f) Category I and category II peace officers.

(g) Category III peace officers.

(h) Supervisory employees not otherwise included in other workplace relations units.

(i) Employees of the University and Community College System of Nevada, except such employees who are category I peace officers.

(j) Employees of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources who:

(1) Perform emergency fire suppression; or

(2) Provide direct support to the employees described in subparagraph (1).

3. The Board shall, in accordance with the rules established pursuant to section 17 of this act, establish the exact classifications of employees within each workplace relations unit. The Board may assign a new classification to a workplace relations unit based upon the similarity of the new classification to other classifications within the workplace relations unit.

4. The Board shall not change an established workplace relations unit arbitrarily.

5. The Board shall determine whether the employment functions of any group of employees performing managerial functions preclude the inclusion of those employees in a workplace relations unit.

6. As used in this section:

(a) "Category I peace officer" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 289.460.

(b) "Category II peace officer" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 289.470.

(c) "Category III peace officer" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 289.480.

Sec. 26. If no employee organization is designated as the exclusive representative of a workplace relations unit and an employee organization files with the Board a list of its membership showing that the employee organization represents more than 50 percent of the employees within the workplace relations unit, the Board shall designate the employee

organization as the exclusive representative of the workplace relations unit without ordering an election.

Sec. 27. 1. If no employee organization is designated as the exclusive representative of a workplace relations unit, the Board shall order an election to be conducted within the workplace relations unit if:

(a) An employee organization files with the Board a written request for an election which includes a list of its membership showing that it represents at least 30 percent but not more than 50 percent of the employees within the workplace relations unit; and

(b) No other election to choose, change or discontinue representation has been conducted within the workplace relations unit during the preceding 12 months.

2. If the Board designates an employee organization as the exclusive representative of a workplace relations unit pursuant to subsection 1 or section 26 of this act, the Board shall order an election if:

(a) Either:

(1) Another employee organization files with the Board a written request for an election which includes a list of its membership showing that the employee organization represents at least 50 percent of the employees within the workplace relations unit; or

(2) A group of employees within the workplace relations unit files with the Board a written request for an election which includes a list showing that more than 50 percent of the employees within the workplace relations unit have requested that an election be conducted to change or discontinue representation; and

(b) If applicable, the request filed pursuant to paragraph (a) is filed not more than 270 days or not less than 225 days before the date on which the current workplace relations agreement in effect for the workplace relations unit expires; and

(c) No other election to choose, change or discontinue representation has been conducted within the workplace relations unit during the preceding 12 months.

Sec. 28. 1. *If the Board orders an election within a workplace relations unit pursuant to section 27 of this act, the Board shall order that each of the following be placed as a choice on the ballot for the election:*

(a) If applicable, the employee organization that requested the election pursuant to section 27 of this act and the employee organization that is presently designated as the exclusive representative of the workplace relations unit pursuant to section 27 of this act;

(b) Any other employee organization that, on or before the date that is prescribed by the rules established by the Board, files with the Board a written request to be placed on the ballot for the election and includes with the written request a list of its membership showing that the employee organization represents at least 30 percent of the employees within the workplace relations unit; and

(c) A choice for “no representation.”

2. *If a ballot for an election contains more than two choices and none of the choices on the ballot receives a majority of the votes cast at the initial election, the Board shall order a runoff election between the two choices on the ballot that received the highest number of votes at the initial election.*

3. If the choice for “no representation” receives a majority of the votes cast at the initial election or at any runoff election, the Board shall designate the workplace relations unit as being without representation.

4. If an employee organization receives a majority of the votes cast at the initial election or at any runoff election, the Board shall designate the employee organization as the exclusive representative of the workplace relations unit.

Sec. 29. 1. The Board shall preside over all elections that are conducted pursuant to this chapter and shall determine the eligibility requirements for employees to vote in any such election.

2. An employee organization that is placed as a choice on the ballot for an election or any employee who is eligible to vote at an election may file with the Board a written objection to the results of the election. The objection must be filed not later than 10 days after the date on which the notice of the results of the election is given by the Board.

3. In response to a written objection filed pursuant to subsection 2 or upon its own motion, the Board may invalidate the results of an election and order a new election if the Board finds that any conduct or circumstances raise substantial doubt that the results of the election are reliable.

Sec. 30. 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, an exclusive representative shall:

(a) Act as the agent and exclusive representative of all employees within each workplace relations unit that it represents; and

(b) In good faith and on behalf of each workplace relations unit that it represents, individually or collectively, engage in discussions of workplace relations with the Executive Department concerning the terms and conditions of employment for the employees within each workplace relations unit that it represents, including, without limitation, any terms and conditions of

employment that are within the scope of supplemental discussions of workplace relations pursuant to section 38 of this act.

2. If an employee is within a workplace relations unit that has an exclusive representative, the employee has the right to present grievances to the Executive Department at any time and to have those grievances adjusted without the intervention of the exclusive representative if:

(a) The exclusive representative is given an opportunity to be present at any meetings or hearings related to the adjustment of the grievance; and

(b) The adjustment of the grievance is not inconsistent with the provisions of the workplace relations agreement or any supplemental workplace relations agreement then in effect.

Sec. 31. If the Board designates an employee organization as the exclusive representative of a workplace relations unit pursuant to this chapter, an officer of the Executive Department may not, pursuant to NRS 281.129, withhold any amount of money from the salary or wages of an employee within the workplace relations unit to pay dues or similar fees to an employee organization other than the employee organization that is the exclusive representative of the workplace relations unit.

Sec. 32. The Executive Department and an exclusive representative shall begin negotiations concerning a workplace relations agreement within 60 days after one party notifies the other party of the desire to negotiate.

Sec. 33. 1. If the parties do not reach a workplace relations agreement within 120 days after the date on which the parties began negotiations or any later date which is set by agreement of the parties, either party may request a mediator from the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service.

2. The mediator shall bring the parties together as soon as possible after his appointment and shall attempt to settle each issue in dispute within 30 days after his appointment or any later date which is set by agreement of the parties.

Sec. 34. 1. If the mediator determines that his services are no longer helpful or if the parties do not reach a workplace relations agreement through mediation within 30 days after the appointment of the mediator or any later date which is set by agreement of the parties, the mediator shall discontinue meditation and the parties shall attempt to agree upon an impartial arbitrator.

2. If the parties do not agree upon an impartial arbitrator within 5 days after the date on which mediation is discontinued pursuant to subsection 1 or on or before any later date which is set by agreement of the parties, the parties shall request from the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service a list of seven potential arbitrators. The parties shall select an arbitrator from this list by alternately striking one name until the name of only one arbitrator remains, and that arbitrator must hear the dispute in question. The party who will strike the first name must be determined by a coin toss.

3. The arbitrator shall begin arbitration proceedings within 60 days after his selection or any later date which is set by agreement of the parties.

4. The arbitrator and the parties shall apply and follow the procedures for arbitration that are prescribed by the rules established by the Board. During arbitration, the parties retain their respective duties to negotiate in good faith.

5. The arbitrator may administer oaths or affirmations, take testimony and issue and seek enforcement of subpoenas in the same manner as the Board pursuant to section 18 of this act,

and except as otherwise provided in subsection 6, the provisions of section 18 of this act apply to subpoenas issued by the arbitrator.

6. The Executive Department and the exclusive representative shall each pay one-half of the cost of arbitration.

Sec. 35. 1. For each separate issue that is in dispute after arbitration proceedings are held pursuant to section 34 of this act, the arbitrator shall incorporate either the final offer of the Executive Department or the final offer of the exclusive representative into his decision. The arbitrator shall not revise or amend the final offer of either party on any issue.

2. To determine which final offers to incorporate into his decision, the arbitrator shall assess the reasonableness of:

(a) The position of each party as to each issue in dispute; and

(b) The contractual terms and provisions contained in each final offer.

3. In assessing reasonableness pursuant to subsection 2, the arbitrator shall:

(a) Compare the terms and conditions of employment for the employees within the workplace relations unit with the terms and conditions of employment for other employees performing similar services and for other employees generally:

(1) In public employment in comparable communities; and

(2) In private employment in comparable communities; and

(b) Consider, without limitation, such other factors as are normally or traditionally used as part of discussions of workplace relations, mediation, arbitration or other methods of dispute resolution to determine the terms and conditions of employment for employees in public or private employment.

4. The arbitrator shall render a written decision within 45 days after the conclusion of the arbitration proceedings or before any later date which is set by agreement of the parties.

5. Except as otherwise provided in section 36 of this act, each provision that is included in a decision of the arbitrator is final and binding upon the parties.

Sec. 36. 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, a party may seek judicial review in the district court of the decision of an arbitrator made pursuant to section 35 of this act based upon jurisdictional grounds or upon the grounds that the decision:

(a) Was procured by fraud, collusion or other similar unlawful means; or

(b) Was not supported by competent, material and substantial evidence on the whole record and based upon the factors set forth in section 35 of this act.

2. If a party seeks judicial review pursuant to this section, the district court may stay the contested portion of the decision of the arbitrator until the court rules on the matter.

3. The district court may affirm or reverse the contested portion of the decision of the arbitrator, in whole or in part, but the court may not remand the matter to the arbitrator or require any additional fact-finding or decision making by the arbitrator.

4. If the district court reverses any part of the contested portion of the decision of the arbitrator, the court shall enter an order invalidating that part of the decision of the arbitrator, and that part of the decision of the arbitrator is void and must not be given effect.

Sec. 37. 1. If a provision of a workplace relations agreement does not require an amendment to existing statute by the Legislature to be given effect, the provision becomes effective pursuant to the provisions of the workplace relations agreement.

2. If a provision of the workplace relations agreement requires an amendment to existing statute by the Legislature to be given effect, the provision becomes effective, if at all, on the date on which the necessary amendment to existing statute becomes effective.

Sec. 38. 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the Executive Department and the exclusive representative of the workplace relations unit may engage in supplemental discussions of workplace relations concerning any terms and conditions of employment which are peculiar to or which uniquely affect fewer than all the employees within the workplace relations unit if such supplemental terms and conditions of employment are not included in any provision of the workplace relations agreement then in effect between the Executive Department and the workplace relations unit.

2. The Executive Department and an exclusive representative may engage in supplemental discussions of workplace relations pursuant to subsection 1 for fewer than all the employees within two or more workplace relations units that the exclusive representative represents if the requirements of subsection 1 are met for each such workplace relations unit.

3. If the parties reach a supplemental workplace relations agreement pursuant to this section, the provisions of the supplemental workplace relations agreement:

(a) Must be in writing; and

(b) Shall be deemed to be incorporated into the provisions of each workplace relations agreement then in effect between the Executive Department and the employees who are subject to the supplemental workplace relations agreement if the provisions of the supplemental workplace relations agreement do not conflict with the provisions of the workplace relations agreement.

4. If any provision of the supplemental workplace relations agreement conflicts with any provision of the workplace relations agreement, the provision of the supplemental workplace relations agreement is void and the provision of the workplace relations agreement must be given effect.

5. The provisions of the supplemental workplace relations agreement expire at the same time as the other provisions of the workplace relations agreement into which they are incorporated.

6. The Executive Department and an exclusive representative may, during discussions of workplace relations conducted pursuant to this chapter, negotiate and include in a workplace relations agreement any terms and conditions of employment that would otherwise be within the scope of supplemental workplace relations conducted pursuant to this section.

Sec. 39. 1. *Except as otherwise provided by specific statute, an employee organization and the Executive Department may sue or be sued as an entity pursuant to this chapter.*

2. If any action or proceeding is brought by or against an employee organization pursuant to this chapter, the district court for the county in which the employee organization maintains its principal office or the county in which the claim arose has jurisdiction over the claim.

3. A natural person and his assets are not subject to liability for any judgment awarded pursuant to this chapter against the Executive Department or an employee organization.

Sec. 40. *The terms of any workplace relations agreement remain in effect until a new workplace relations agreement takes effect.*

Sec. 41. NRS 281.129 is hereby amended to read as follows:

281.129 1. Any officer of the State, except the Legislative Fiscal Officer, who disburses money in payment of salaries and wages of officers and employees of the State:

(a) May, upon written requests of the officer or employee specifying amounts, withhold those amounts and pay them to:

- (1) Charitable organizations;
- (2) Employee credit unions;
- (3) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b), insurers;
- (4) The United States for the purchase of savings bonds and similar obligations of the United States; and

(5) ~~Employee~~ *Except as otherwise provided in section 31 of this act, employee* organizations and labor organizations.

(b) Shall, upon receipt of information from the Public Employees' Benefits Program specifying amounts of premiums or contributions for coverage by the Program, withhold those amounts from the salaries or wages of officers and employees who participate in the Program and pay those amounts to the Program.

2. The State Controller may adopt regulations necessary to withhold money from the salaries or wages of officers and employees of the Executive Department.

Sec. 42. NRS 284.013 is hereby amended to read as follows:

284.013 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, this chapter does not apply to:

(a) Agencies, bureaus, commissions, officers or personnel in the Legislative Department or the Judicial Department of State Government, including the Commission on Judicial Discipline;

(b) Any person who is employed by a board, commission, committee or council created in chapters 590, 623 to 625A, inclusive, 628, 630 to 644, inclusive, 648, 652, 654 and 656 of NRS; or

(c) Officers or employees of any agency of the Executive Department of the State Government who are exempted by specific statute.

2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, the terms and conditions of employment of all persons referred to in subsection 1, including salaries not prescribed by law and leaves of absence, including, without limitation, annual leave and sick and disability leave, must be fixed by the appointing or employing authority within the limits of legislative appropriations or authorizations.

3. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, leaves of absence prescribed pursuant to subsection 2 must not be of lesser duration than those provided for other state officers and employees pursuant to the provisions of this chapter. The provisions of this subsection do not govern the Legislative Commission with respect to the personnel of the Legislative Counsel Bureau.

4. Any board, commission, committee or council created in chapters 590, 623 to 625A, inclusive, 628, 630 to 644, inclusive, 648, 652, 654 and 656 of NRS which contracts for the services of a person, shall require the contract for those services to be in writing. The contract must be approved by the State Board of Examiners before those services may be provided.

5. To the extent that they are inconsistent or otherwise in conflict, the provisions of this chapter do not apply to any terms or conditions of employment that are properly within the scope of and subject to the provisions of a workplace relations agreement or a supplemental workplace relations agreement that is enforceable pursuant to the provisions of sections 2 to 40, inclusive, of this act. As used in this subsection, “terms and conditions of employment” has the meaning ascribed to it in section 14 of this act.

Sec. 43. NRS 288.030 is hereby amended to read as follows:

288.030 “Board” means the ~~[Local Government Employee-Management]~~ ***Public Employment*** Relations Board.

Sec. 44. NRS 288.080 is hereby amended to read as follows:

288.080 1. The ~~[Local Government Employee-Management]~~ ***Public Employment*** Relations Board is hereby created, consisting of three members, broadly representative of the public and not closely allied with any employee organization, ***the State*** or ***any*** local government employer, not more than two of whom may be members of the same political party. The term of office of each member is 4 years.

2. The Governor shall appoint the members of the Board.

Sec. 45. The Legislative Counsel shall:

1. In preparing the reprint and supplements to the Nevada Revised Statutes, change any reference to the Local Government Employee-Management Relations Board to refer to the Public Employment Relations Board.

2. In preparing the supplements to the Nevada Administrative Code, change any reference to the Local Government Employee-Management Relations Board to refer to the Public Employment Relations Board.

Sec. 46. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2005.”.

Amend the title of the bill to read as follows:

“AN ACT relating to state employees; authorizing discussions of workplace relations for certain state employees; changing the name of the Local Government Employee-Management Relations Board to the Public Employment Relations Board; expanding the duties of the Board to include discussions of workplace relations for certain state employees;

providing for workplace relations units of state employees and for their representatives; establishing procedures for discussing workplace relations and for making, revising and amending workplace relations agreements; prohibiting certain unfair labor practices; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.”.

Amend the summary of the bill to read as follows:

“SUMMARY—Authorizes discussions of workplace relations for certain state employees.

(BDR 23-1476)”.