

SENATE BILL NO. 428—SENATOR TITUS

MARCH 19, 2007

Referred to Committee on Government Affairs

SUMMARY—Provides for workplace relations discussions and agreements for certain state employees. (BDR 23-1098)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets [omitted-material] is material to be omitted.

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 and amending workplace relations agreements; prohibiting certain unfair labor practices; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

1 Title 23 of NRS governs public employment. This bill authorizes discussions of
2 workplace relations between the State and certain state employees. **Section 44** of
3 this bill expands the duties of and renames the Local Government Employee-
4 Management Relations Board as the Public Employment Relations Board. In
5 addition to addressing labor matters between local governmental employers and
6 employees, **sections 17-19** of this bill expand the duties of the Public Employment
7 Relations Board to include hearing and deciding disputes between the State and
8 certain state employees. **Sections 20-22** of this bill authorize certain state
9 employees to organize and join employee organizations, or refrain from engaging
10 in that activity, and, as applicable, to discuss workplace relations through exclusive
11 representatives. **Sections 23 and 24** of this bill prescribe certain unfair labor
12 practices in the context of discussions of workplace relations. **Section 25** of this bill
13 provides for the creation and organization of workplace relations units of state
14 employees. **Sections 26-29** of this bill provide for the election or designation of



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15 exclusive representatives of workplace relations units. **Section 30** of this bill
16 requires the exclusive representative of a workplace relations unit to engage in
17 discussions of workplace relations with the Executive Department of the State
18 Government on behalf of the employees within the unit.

19 **Section 32** of this bill requires the Executive Department and an exclusive
20 representative to begin negotiations regarding a workplace relations agreement if
21 one party notifies the other of a desire to negotiate. **Sections 33-36** of this bill
22 provide for mediation, arbitration and judicial review of disputes between the
23 Executive Department and a workplace relations unit. **Section 38** of this bill
24 authorizes certain supplemental discussions between the Executive Department and
25 the exclusive representative of a workplace relations unit of any terms and
26 conditions of employment that do not affect all of the employees of the workplace
27 relations unit.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

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

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

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

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

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

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

25 **Sec. 7. 1.** *“Employee” means a person who:*
26 *(a) Is employed in the classified service of the State pursuant*
27 *to chapter 284 of NRS, including, without limitation, persons*
28 *employed in the classified service by the Nevada System of Higher*
29 *Education; or*



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

4 ***2. The term does not include:***

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

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

14 ***(c) A confidential employee;***

15 ***(d) A temporary employee who is employed for a fixed period***
16 ***of 4 months or less;***

17 ***(e) A commissioned officer and an enlisted member of the***
18 ***Nevada National Guard;***

19 ***(f) A justice of the Supreme Court and a judge of a district***
20 ***court;***

21 ***(g) Inmates of state institutions even though they may be***
22 ***receiving compensation for services performed for the institution;***
23 ***and***

24 ***(h) Any person employed by the Legislature.***

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

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

34 ***Sec. 10. "Grievance" means an act, omission or occurrence***
35 ***which an employee or an exclusive representative constitutes in***
36 ***his belief an injustice relating to any condition arising out of the***
37 ***relationship between an employer and an employee, including,***
38 ***without limitation, working hours, working conditions,***
39 ***membership in an organization of employees or the interpretation***
40 ***of any law, regulation or agreement.***

41 ***Sec. 11. "Mediation" means assistance by an impartial third***
42 ***party to reconcile differences between the Executive Department***
43 ***and an exclusive representative through interpretation, suggestion***
44 ***and advice.***



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

3 1. *Is predominately intellectual and varied in character as*
4 *opposed to routine mental, manual, mechanical or physical work;*

5 2. *Involves the consistent exercise of discretion and judgment*
6 *in its performance;*

7 3. *Is of such a character that the result accomplished or*
8 *produced cannot be standardized in relation to a given period; and*

9 4. *Requires advanced knowledge in a field of science or*
10 *learning customarily acquired through a prolonged course of*
11 *specialized intellectual instruction and study in an institution of*
12 *higher learning, as distinguished from general academic*
13 *education, an apprenticeship or training in the performance of*
14 *routine mental or physical processes.*

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

17 1. *Hire, transfer, suspend, lay off, recall, promote, discharge,*
18 *assign, reward or discipline other employees, or who has the*
19 *responsibility to direct such employees; or*

20 2. *Adjust the grievances of other employees or effectively*
21 *recommend such an action, if the exercise of that authority*
22 *requires the use of independent judgment and is not of a routine*
23 *or clerical nature.*

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

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

32 1. *Hours and working conditions;*

33 2. *Grievances;*

34 3. *Discipline and discharge; and*

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

37 **Sec. 15.** *“Workplace relations unit” means a collection of*
38 *employees that the Board has established as a workplace relations*
39 *unit pursuant to section 25 of this act.*

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

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

44 (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 establishment of workplace relations units; and*

(e) *Such other matters 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 has merit, 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 a 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 attorney's fees, to the prevailing party.*



1 **Sec. 18. 1.** *For the purpose of hearing and deciding*
2 *appeals or complaints, the Board may issue subpoenas requiring*
3 *the attendance of witnesses before it, together with all books,*
4 *memoranda, papers and other documents relative to the matters*
5 *under investigation, administer oaths and take testimony*
6 *thereunder.*

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

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

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

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

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

25 ↳ *and asking an order of the court compelling the witness to*
26 *attend and testify or produce the books or papers before the Board.*

27 4. *The court, upon petition of the Board, shall enter an order*
28 *directing the witness to appear before the court at a time and place*
29 *to be fixed by the court in such order, the time to be not more than*
30 *10 days after the date of the order, and then and there show cause*
31 *why he has not attended or testified or produced the books or*
32 *papers before the Board. A certified copy of the order must be*
33 *served upon the witness. If it appears to the court that the*
34 *subpoena was regularly issued by the Board, the court shall*
35 *thereupon enter an order that the witness appear before the Board*
36 *at the time and place fixed in the order and testify or produce the*
37 *required books or papers, and upon failure to obey the order the*
38 *witness shall be dealt with as for contempt of court.*

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

43 **Sec. 20. 1.** *For the purposes of discussions of workplace*
44 *relations, supplemental discussions of workplace relations and*
45 *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:



1 (a) Any regulation adopted by the Executive Department, the
2 provision of the agreement prevails unless the provision of the
3 agreement is outside of the lawful scope of discussions of
4 workplace relations.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

14 (a) *If the Board determines that the complaint has no basis in*
15 *law or fact, the Board shall dismiss the complaint.*

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

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

21 (2) *The rules made by the Board pursuant to section 17 of*
22 *this act.*

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

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

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

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

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

38 **Sec. 24. 1.** *The Board may appoint a hearing officer to*
39 *conduct a hearing that the Board is otherwise required to conduct*
40 *pursuant to section 23 of this act.*

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

43 3. *On appeal to the Board, the Board may consider the record*
44 *of the hearing or may 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 made 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 made 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, legal support staff 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 provide 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 Nevada System of Higher Education, 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:*



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

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

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

12 (a) Either:

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

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

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

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

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

34 (a) If applicable, the employee organization that requested the
35 election pursuant to section 27 of this act and the employee
36 organization that is presently designated as the exclusive
37 representative of the workplace relations unit pursuant to section
38 27 of this act;

39 (b) Any other employee organization that, on or before the
40 date that is prescribed by the rules made by the Board, files with
41 the Board a written request to be placed on the ballot for the
42 election and includes with the written request a list of its
43 membership showing that the employee organization represents at
44 least 30 percent of the employees within the workplace relations
45 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



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1 *those grievances adjusted without the intervention of the exclusive*
2 *representative if:*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



1 3. The arbitrator shall begin arbitration proceedings within
2 60 days after his selection or any later date which is set by
3 agreement of the parties.

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

8 5. The arbitrator may administer oaths or affirmations, take
9 testimony and issue and seek enforcement of subpoenas in the
10 same manner as the Board pursuant to section 18 of this act, and,
11 except as otherwise provided in subsection 6, the provisions of
12 section 18 of this act apply to subpoenas issued by the arbitrator.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

32 (1) In public employment in comparable communities; and

33 (2) In private employment in comparable communities; and

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

41 2. *The Executive Department and an exclusive representative*
42 *may engage in supplemental discussions of workplace relations*
43 *pursuant to subsection 1 for fewer than all the employees within*
44 *two or more workplace relations units that the exclusive*



1 *representative represents if the requirements of subsection 1 are*
2 *met for each such workplace relations unit.*

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

6 (a) *Must be in writing; and*

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

13 4. *If any provision of the supplemental workplace relations*
14 *agreement conflicts with any provision of the workplace relations*
15 *agreement, the provision of the supplemental workplace*
16 *relations agreement is void and the provision of the workplace*
17 *relations agreement must be given effect.*

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

42 281.129 1. Any officer of the State, except the Legislative
43 Fiscal Officer, who disburses money in payment of salaries and
44 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



1 person, shall require the contract for those services to be in writing.
2 The contract must be approved by the State Board of Examiners
3 before those services may be provided.

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

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

14 288.030 "Board" means the ~~[Local Government Employee-~~
15 ~~Management]~~ *Public Employment* Relations Board.

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

17 288.080 1. The ~~[Local Government Employee Management]~~
18 *Public Employment* Relations Board is hereby created, consisting of
19 three members, broadly representative of the public and not closely
20 allied with any employee organization , *the State* or *any* local
21 government employer, not more than two of whom may be members
22 of the same political party. The term of office of each member is 4
23 years.

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

25 **Sec. 45.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2007.

