

A Bill for an Act Relating to the Hawaii Public Employment Relations Board.

*Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:*

SECTION 1. Section 89-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read:

“(a) There is created a Hawaii public employment relations board composed of three members of which (1) one member shall be representative of management, (2) one member shall be representative of labor and (3) the third member, the [chairman,] chairperson, shall be representative of the public. All members shall be appointed by the governor for terms of six years each, except that the terms of members first appointed shall be for four, five, and six years respectively as designated by the governor at the time of appointments. Public employers

and employee organizations representing public employees may submit to the governor for consideration names of persons representing their interests to serve as members of the board and the governor shall first consider these persons in selecting the members of the board to represent management and labor. Each member shall hold office until his successor is appointed and qualified. Because cumulative experience and continuity in office are essential to the proper administration of this chapter, it is declared to be in the public interest to continue board members in office as long as efficiency is demonstrated, notwithstanding the provision of section 26-34, which limits the appointment of a member of a board or commission to two terms.

The members shall devote full time to their duties as members of the board. Effective July 1, 1981, the salary of the [chairman] chairperson of the board shall be \$46,750 a year, and the salary of each of the other members shall be \$44,413 a year. Effective July 1, 1982, the salary of the [chairman] chairperson of the board shall be \$47,520 a year, and the salary of each of the other members shall be \$44,550 a year. No member shall hold any other public office or be in the employment of the State or a county, or any department or agency thereof, or any employee organization during his term.

Any action taken by the board shall be by a simple majority of the members of the board. All decisions of the board shall be reduced to writing and shall state separately its finding of fact and conclusions. Three members of the board, consisting of the [chairman,] chairperson, at least one member representative of management, and at least one member representative of labor, shall constitute a quorum. Any vacancy in the board[,] shall not impair the authority of the remaining members to exercise all the powers of the board. The governor may appoint an acting member of the board during the temporary absence from the State or the illness of any regular member. An acting member, during his term of service, shall have the same powers and duties as the regular member.

The [chairman] chairperson of the board shall be responsible for the administrative functions of the board. The board may appoint an executive officer, mediators, members of fact-finding boards, arbitrators, and hearing officers, and employ other assistants as it may deem necessary in the performance of its functions, prescribe their duties, and fix their compensation and provide for reimbursement of actual and necessary expenses incurred by them in the performance of their duties within the amounts made available by appropriations therefor. The provisions of section 103-3 notwithstanding, an attorney employed by the board as a full-time staff member may represent the board in litigation, draft legal documents for the board, and provide other necessary legal services to the board and shall not be deemed to be a deputy attorney general.

The board shall be within the department of labor and industrial relations for budgetary and administrative purposes only. The members of the board and employees other than clerical and stenographic employees shall be exempt from chapters 76 and 77. Clerical and stenographic employees shall be appointed in accordance with chapters 76 and 77.

At the close of each fiscal year, the board shall make a written report to the governor of such facts as it may deem essential to describe its activities, including

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the cases and their dispositions, and the names, duties, and salaries of its officers and employees. Copies of the report shall be transmitted to the legislative bodies [and to the public management committee].

(b) In addition to the powers and functions provided in other sections of this chapter, the board shall:

- (1) Establish procedures for, investigate, and resolve, any dispute concerning the designation of an appropriate bargaining unit and the application of section 89-6 to specific employees and positions;
- (2) Resolve any dispute concerning cost items;
- (3) Establish procedures for, resolve disputes with respect to, and supervise the conduct of, elections for the determination of employee representation;
- (4) Conduct proceedings on complaints of prohibited practices by employers, employees, and employee organizations and take such actions with respect thereto as it deems necessary and proper;
- (5) Hold such hearings and make such inquiries, as it deems necessary, to carry out properly its functions and powers, and for the purpose of such hearings and inquiries, administer oaths and affirmations, examine witnesses and documents, take testimony and receive evidence, compel attendance of witnesses and the production of documents by the issuance of subpoenas, and delegate such powers to any member of the board or any person appointed by the board for the performance of its functions;
- (6) Establish, after reviewing nominations submitted by the public employers and employee organizations, lists of qualified persons, broadly representative of the public, to be available to serve as mediators, members of fact-finding boards, or arbitrators;
- (7) Establish daily or hourly rates at which mediators, members of fact-finding boards, and arbitrators serving pursuant to paragraph 3 of subsection 89-11(b) are to be compensated and apportion the costs of arbitration to the parties involved;
- (8) Conduct studies on problems pertaining to public employee-management relations, and make recommendations with respect thereto to the legislative bodies; request information and data from state and county departments and agencies and employee organizations necessary to carry out its functions and responsibilities; make available to [the public management committee,] employee organizations, as may exist, mediators, members of fact-finding boards, arbitrators, and other concerned parties statistical data relating to wages, benefits, and employment practices in public and private employment to assist them in resolving issues in negotiations;
- (9) Promulgate rules and regulations relative to the exercise of its powers and authority and to govern the proceedings before it in accordance with chapter 91."

SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New material is underscored.

**SECTION 3.** This Act shall take effect upon its approval.  
(Approved April 26, 1983.)

**Note**

1. Section number and heading missing.