

FINAL BILL REPORT

ESHB 1361

C 148 L 23
Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Updating statutes related to state employment by removing obsolete language, eliminating unnecessary reports, conforming a reporting period to fiscal year, and modernizing employee pay procedures.

Sponsors: House Committee on Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Abbarno, Rule, Reeves and Gregerson; by request of Office of Financial Management).

House Committee on Appropriations
Senate Committee on State Government & Elections

Background:

The Office of Financial Management (OFM) has, among several duties, responsibility for the direction and supervision of personnel policies and application of the civil service laws of the state. The Department of Enterprise Services directs and supervises the implementation of those laws and policies for the state workforce. Each agency has responsibilities for reporting on and implementing changes to the structure of salaries and employment of the state workforce.

Summary:

Obsolete salary schedule language related to comparable worth and locally competitive higher education salary schedules is repealed. Several temporary salary freeze provisions dating from February 18, 2009, until July 31, 2013, are also repealed.

An annual reporting requirement from each state agency to the OFM on the number of specified types of employees and the use of bonus or incentive awards are eliminated. Language that prohibits monetary performance-based awards or incentives during the period between February 15, 2010, and June 30, 2013, is repealed.

State employees appointed on or after July 1, 2023, must be paid only through electronic

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transfers of funds. The requirement to pay new employees by electronic transfer of funds does not apply to new employees at the University of Washington until July 1, 2025.

The right of civil service exempt employees to revert to a classified position is suspended if the employee has been notified in writing that they are the subject of a workplace investigation that could result in a gross misconduct or malfeasance finding. A writing for the purposes of this notice includes an email sent to the employees' work email address.

The year used for state agencies to report information to the Department of Social and Health Services and the Governor's Disability Employment Task Force is changed from a calendar year to a fiscal year.

Votes on Final Passage:

House	98	0
Senate	48	0

Effective: July 23, 2023