
SENATE BILL 5991

State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By Senators Gardner, Horn, Haugen, Kline, Patterson, McCaslin and Rasmussen

Read first time 02/18/1999. Referred to Committee on Labor & Workforce Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to the length of collective bargaining for public
2 employees; and amending RCW 41.56.070.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 41.56.070 and 1975 1st ex.s. c 296 s 18 are each
5 amended to read as follows:

6 In the event the commission elects to conduct an election to
7 ascertain the exclusive bargaining representative, and upon the request
8 of a prospective bargaining representative showing written proof of at
9 least thirty percent representation of the public employees within the
10 unit, the commission shall hold an election by secret ballot to
11 determine the issue. The ballot shall contain the name of such
12 bargaining representative and of any other bargaining representative
13 showing written proof of at least ten percent representation of the
14 public employees within the unit, together with a choice for any public
15 employee to designate that he does not desire to be represented by any
16 bargaining agent. Where more than one organization is on the ballot
17 and neither of the three or more choices receives a majority vote of
18 the public employees within the bargaining unit, a run-off election
19 shall be held. The run-off ballot shall contain the two choices which

1 received the largest and second-largest number of votes. No question
2 concerning representation may be raised within one year of a
3 certification or attempted certification. Where there is a valid
4 collective bargaining agreement in effect, no question of
5 representation may be raised except during the period not more than
6 ninety nor less than sixty days prior to the expiration date of the
7 agreement. Any agreement which contains a provision for automatic
8 renewal or extension of the agreement shall not be a valid agreement(~~(+~~
9 ~~nor shall any agreement be valid if it provides for a term of existence~~
10 ~~for more than three years)~~). However, an agreement may be for a term
11 of any length as the parties may mutually agree.

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