

HOUSE BILL REPORT

HB 2763

As Reported by House Committee On: Labor & Workplace Standards

Title: An act relating to interest arbitration for department of corrections employees.

Brief Description: Concerning interest arbitration for department of corrections employees.

Sponsors: Representatives Chapman, Dent, Hudgins and Tharinger.

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

Labor & Workplace Standards: 1/27/20, 1/30/20 [DP].

Brief Summary of Bill

- Provides interest arbitration to nonsupervisory marine department employees of the Department of Corrections.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LABOR & WORKPLACE STANDARDS

Majority Report: Do pass. Signed by 6 members: Representatives Sells, Chair; Chapman, Vice Chair; Mosbrucker, Ranking Minority Member; Gregerson, Hoff and Ormsby.

Minority Report: Do not pass. Signed by 1 member: Representative Chandler, Assistant Ranking Minority Member.

Staff: Trudes Tango (786-7384).

Background:

The Department of Corrections (DOC) is responsible for managing state-operated adult prison facilities and supervising adult offenders residing in communities. The DOC also maintains marine operations for the McNeil Island civil commitment center.

The Personnel System Reform Act (PSRA) provides for collective bargaining of wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment with classified employees of state agencies and higher education institutions. The PSRA provides for binding interest

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arbitration for the DOC employees, except for confidential employees, nonsupervisory marine department employees, members of the Washington Management Service, and internal auditors, who are not granted interest arbitration.

Summary of Bill:

The interest arbitration provisions for the DOC employees applies to nonsupervisory marine department employees.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony:

(In support) There are seven employees that would benefit from this bill. Deckhands, who are members of the Teamsters, already have interest arbitration. There would be retention problems if deckhands end up earning more than the captains.

(Opposed) None.

Persons Testifying: Representative Chapman, prime sponsor; and Gordon Baxter, International Organization of Masters, Mates and Pilots, American Federation of Labor, and Congress of Industrial Organizations.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: None.