Second Regular Session - 2020

IN THE SENATE

SENATE BILL NO. 1302

BY COMMERCE AND HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE

AN ACT RELATING TO THE EMPLOYMENT OF FIREFIGHTERS; AMENDING SECTION 44-1805, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE FOR MEDIATION AND TO MAKE TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS; AMENDING SECTION 44-1806, IDAHO CODE, TO REVISE PROVISIONS REGARDING FACTFINDER SELECTION; AMENDING SECTION 44-1807, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE FOR THE COMPLETION OF THE FACT-FINDING PROCESS; AND AMENDING SECTION 44-1811, IDAHO CODE, TO PROVIDE THAT STRIKES SHALL BE PROHIBITED DURING MEDIATION, FACT-FINDING, AND DURING A CERTAIN PERIOD AFTER FACT-FIND-ING.

10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Idaho:

SECTION 1. That Section 44-1805, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

44-1805. SUBMISSION RESOLUTION OF ISSUES TO _- MEDIATION _- FACT_FINDING COMMISSION. In the event that the bargaining agent and the corporate authorities are unable, within thirty (30) days from and including the date of their first meeting, to reach an agreement on a contract, any and all unresolved issues shall be submitted to mediation. A mediator shall be requested jointly by the bargaining agent and the corporate authorities and shall recommend or suggest to the parties any proposal or procedure that in the mediator's judgment might lead to settlement. If, within a further fourteen (14) day period after mediation, the bargaining agent and the corporate authorities remain unable to reach an agreement on a contract, any and all unresolved issues shall be submitted to a fact-finding commission.

SECTION 2. That Section 44-1806, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

44-1806. APPOINTMENT OF FACT-FINDING COMMISSION -- PUBLIC OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES INELIGIBLE -- PAYMENT OF EXPENSES. Within five (5) days from the expiration of the thirty fourteen (3014) day period referred to in section 44-1805, Idaho Code, the bargaining agent and the corporate authorities shall each select and name one (1) member of a fact-finding commission respectively and shall immediately thereafter notify each other in writing of the names and addresses of the person so selected. The two (2) members so selected and named shall, within ten (10) days from and after the expiration of the five (5) day period mentioned above in this section, agree upon and appoint and name a third member. If on the expiration of the ten (10) day period, the two (2) members are unable to agree upon the appointment of a third member, the director of the department of labor shall appoint such third member upon request in writing from either the bargaining agent or the corporate authorities either member may request a list of five (5) factfinders from the federal mediation and conciliation service. Within ten (10) days of the

receipt of that list, the two (2) members shall meet, and each shall alternately strike one (1) name from the list until a single name remains, and that person shall be appointed the third member of the fact-finding commission. The third member of the fact-finding commission, whether appointed as result of agreement between the two (2) members selected by the bargaining agent and the corporate authorities, or appointed by the director from a list provided as set out in this section, shall act as chairman of the fact-finding commission. No member of the fact-finding commission shall be an elected official, or employee of the city, county, fire district, or political subdivision affected. Any expenses incurred by the fact-finding commission. The bargaining agent and the corporate authorities shall be responsible for the fees and any expenses of their selected member of the fact-finding commission. The fee and expenses of the third fact-finding member shall be equally shared by the bargaining agent and the corporate authorities.

SECTION 3. That Section 44-1807, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

44-1807. NEGOTIATED AGREEMENTS CONSTITUTE CONTRACT. Any agreements actually negotiated between the bargaining agent and the corporate authorities either before or within thirty fourteen (3014) days after the fact-finding commission's recommendation shall constitute the collective bargaining contract governing the firefighters and said city, county, fire district, or political subdivision for the period stated therein. If no agreement is reached on matters subject to the fact-finding commission's recommendation within fourteen (14) days after its issuance, then the fact-finding commission's recommendation shall become binding and all agreements actually negotiated between the parties, combined with those recommendations as to which the parties have not reached any other agreements, shall constitute the collective bargaining contract governing the firefighters and said city, county, fire district, or political subdivision for the period stated therein.

SECTION 4. That Section 44-1811, Idaho Code, be, and the same is hereby amended to read as follows:

44-1811. STRIKES PROHIBITED DURING CONTRACT. Upon consummation and during the term of the written contract or agreement and during any fact-finding, mediation, and the fourteen (14) day period provided for in section 44-1807, Idaho Code, conducted pursuant to this chapter, no fire-fighter shall strike or recognize a picket line of any labor organization while in the performance of his official duties.