
DIGEST

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HB 555 Original

2018 Regular Session

Thomas

Abstract: Makes collective bargaining sessions between public employers and employees public meetings subject to the Open Meetings Law and makes documents presented during such sessions subject to the Public Records Law.

Present law provides that no collective bargaining agreement to which a public employer is a party shall be accepted until the agreement has been made available to the public on the employer's website for at least five days. Requires the employer to issue a written public notice in the manner required of public bodies by the Open Meetings Law informing the public of how to access the agreement and the date, time, and location of the meeting at which the agreement will be considered for acceptance.

Proposed law retains present law and provides that collective bargaining sessions between a public employer and a labor organization shall be public meetings subject to the Open Meetings Law. Excludes grievance, mediation, or arbitration proceedings with labor organizations or the portion of a meeting during which a public employer is planning or adopting strategy during the course of any collective bargaining proceeding. Requires public notice of a collective bargaining session. Subjects representatives of the employer to liability for violations of proposed law pursuant to the Open Meetings Law.

Proposed law makes documents created or presented during collective bargaining sessions subject to the Public Records Law.

Proposed law defines "collective bargaining agreement" and "labor organization."

(Amends R.S. 44:67.1(B) and 67.2; Adds R.S. 44:67.3 and 67.4)