

~~RETIREMENT SYSTEMS AS SET FORTH IN ARTICLES 65 AND 73B OF THE ANNOTATED CODE. HOWEVER, THIS PROVISION DOES NOT EXCLUDE DISCUSSION OF THE TERMS OF THE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS IN THE COURSE OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING.~~

~~(6) (1) -- IT IS DECLARED TO BE IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST THAT, IN THE COURSE OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING, THE PUBLIC EMPLOYER AND THE EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE MAKE EVERY REASONABLE EFFORT TO CONCLUDE NEGOTIATIONS PRIOR TO THE BUDGET SUBMISSION DATE OF THE PUBLIC EMPLOYER, IN ORDER THAT THE APPROPRIATE LEGISLATIVE BODY MAY ACT ON THE OPERATING BUDGET OF THE EMPLOYER.~~

~~(2) (I) IF IN THE COURSE OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING A PARTY DEEMS THAT AN IMPASSE EXISTS, THAT PARTY SHALL REQUEST THE SERVICES OF THE COMMISSIONER IN MEDIATION OR ENGAGE ANOTHER MUTUALLY AGREED UPON MEDIATOR.~~

~~(II) THE PARTIES BY MUTUAL AGREEMENT MAY ENGAGE IN FACT FINDING. IF THERE IS NOT MUTUAL AGREEMENT, EITHER PARTY, AFTER A REASONABLE PERIOD OF MEDIATION, MAY PETITION THE COMMISSIONER TO INITIATE FACT FINDING. THE COMMISSIONER UPON CONSIDERING THE STATUS OF BARGAINING AND THE BUDGET SCHEDULE OF THE EMPLOYER MAY FIND THAT AN IMPASSE EXISTS, AND MAY NOTIFY THE PARTIES THAT FACT FINDING IS TO BE INITIATED. THE PUBLIC EMPLOYER AND THE EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE MAY SELECT THEIR OWN FACT FINDER. IF THE PARTIES HAVE NOT SELECTED THEIR OWN FACT FINDER WITHIN 5 DAYS OF THE REQUIRED NOTIFICATION, THE COMMISSIONER SHALL SUBMIT TO THE PARTIES THE NAMES OF FIVE QUALIFIED PERSONS. EACH PARTY SHALL SUBMIT TO THE PARTIES THE NAMES OF FIVE QUALIFIED PERSONS. EACH PARTY ALTERNATELY SHALL STRIKE TWO NAMES FROM THE LIST. THE ORDER OF STRIKING SHALL BE DETERMINED BY LOT. THE REMAINING INDIVIDUAL SHALL BE THE FACT FINDER. THE FACT FINDER SELECTED BY THE PARTIES SHALL CONDUCT HEARINGS AND MAY ADMINISTER OATHS. THE FACT FINDER SHALL MAKE WRITTEN FINDINGS OF FACT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RESOLUTION OF THE IMPASSE. NO LATER THAN 30 DAYS FROM THE DATE OF APPOINTMENT THE FACT FINDER SHALL TRANSMIT THE FINDINGS TO THE PUBLIC EMPLOYER AND THE EXCLUSIVE REPRESENTATIVE. IF THE IMPASSE CONTINUES 10 DAYS AFTER THE REPORT IS SUBMITTED TO THE PARTIES, THE REPORT SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC.~~

~~(III) COSTS OF FACT FINDING SHALL BE BORNE EQUALLY BY THE PARTIES.~~

~~(3) PUBLIC EMPLOYEES MAY NOT ENGAGE IN A STRIKE THAT ENDANGERS THE HEALTH OR SAFETY OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC.~~

~~(4) PUBLIC EMPLOYEES MAY ENGAGE IN A STRIKE THAT DOES NOT ENDANGER THE HEALTH OR SAFETY OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC WHEN:~~

~~(I) THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION RELATING TO THE RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES HAVE BEEN COMPLIED WITH IN GOOD FAITH;~~