

HB 1443 -- Collective Bargaining for Emergency Response Personnel

Sponsor: Wildberger

This bill establishes collective bargaining rights for emergency response personnel. In its main provisions, the bill:

(1) Allows emergency response personnel, through an exclusive bargaining representative, to bargain collectively with the appropriate legislative body over wages, hours, and other conditions of employment if:

(a) The appropriate legislative body, on its own accord, adopts the Missouri Emergency Response Personnel Strike Prevention and Arbitration Act by resolution, order, or ordinance; or

(b) Voters approve adoption of the act after an election request by a certain number of petitioners;

(2) Sets out the collective bargaining process in detail and the steps to be taken if the public body and the bargaining representative reach an impasse, including mutually agreed-upon mediation or arbitration;

(3) Lists the factors to be considered by arbitrators in the event of the failure to reach an agreement under negotiation; and

(4) Prohibits strikes, authorizing fines and incarceration for employees who strike, and decertification of bargaining representatives who call for strikes.