

HCS HB 1361 -- COLLECTIVE BARGAINING UNITS WITHIN THE BI-STATE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY

SPONSOR: Mathews

COMMITTEE ACTIONS: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Workforce Standards and Development by a vote of 7 to 3. Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Select Committee on Labor and Industrial Relations by a vote of 5 to 3.

This bill specifies that a collective bargaining unit may independently represent different classes of workers within the bi-state development agency, and there may be multiple collective bargaining units with the agency.

The bi-state development agency is authorized and directed to establish a comprehensive framework of rules and regulations to settle any labor disputes involving representation which arise in the operation of any public transportation services operated by or for the bi-state agency.

In establishing these rules and regulations and in determining any question of representation, including, without limitation, whether a labor organization represents a majority of employees, whether a bargaining unit is appropriate for collective bargaining, or whether an election shall be held to determine the question of representation, and otherwise in establishing rules and regulations governing representation petitions and the conduct of hearings and elections, the bi-state agency shall be guided by relevant federal law and administrative practice developed under section 9 of the National Labor Relations Act, as amended, 29 U.S.C Section 159.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that it is simply a fairness issue. When the union pay for mechanics is below market, that's not acceptable.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Mathews; The Missouri Group; Michael Stenger; and Tim Dempsey.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.