

No. 154. An act relating to binding arbitration for State employees.

(S.241)

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. GRIEVANCE ARBITRATION; STUDY COMMITTEE; REPORT

(a) Creation. There is created a Grievance Arbitration Study Committee to study the issue of grievance arbitration for employees of the State.

(b) Membership. The Grievance Arbitration Study Committee shall be composed of the following members:

(1) the Commissioner of Human Resources or designee;

(2) the Executive Director of the Vermont Bar Association or designee;

(3) one member appointed by the Vermont Troopers Association;

(4) one member appointed by the Vermont State Employees'

Association; and

(5) the Attorney General or designee.

(c) Powers and duties. The Committee shall:

(1) study the issue of grievance arbitration for State employees; and

(2) assess the relative merits of various grievance protocols, including arbitration and use of the Vermont Labor Relations Board, addressing the ability of these protocols to provide resolution of grievances in a manner that is economical, timely, just, and provides for appropriate privacy protections for the parties.

(d) Report. On or before January 15, 2015, the Committee shall submit a written report to the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing

and General Affairs and the House Committee on General, Housing and Military Affairs.

(e) Meetings.

(1) The Commissioner of Human Resources or designee shall be the Chair of the Committee.

(2) The Committee shall convene on or before September 1, 2014 at the call of the Chair, and the Chair shall call any subsequent meetings.

(3)(A) A majority of the members of the Committee shall be physically present at the same location to constitute a quorum.

(B) A member may vote only if physically present at the meeting location.

(C) Action shall be taken only if there is both a quorum and a majority vote of the members physically present and voting.

(4) The Committee shall cease to exist on the date it submits its report under subsection (d) of this section.

(f) Reimbursement. Members of the Committee shall not be entitled to per diem compensation or reimbursement of expenses.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on July 1, 2014.

Date Governor signed bill: May 27, 2014