

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Arbitration for firefighters

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Overview

Under current law, when firefighters and public employers reach an impasse in negotiations for a new contract the matter is referred to arbitration. Also under current law, unless otherwise agreed to by the parties, the arbitrator must choose the total package offered by one party or the total package offered by the other party; i.e. the arbitrator may not pick a middle position.

The current law is scheduled to expire June 30, 2006. This bill repeals that expiration date, so the "final-offer, total-package" provision would be permanent for firefighters.