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## **OLR Bill Analysis**

### **HB 5202**

#### ***AN ACT CONCERNING THE ISSUING OF DECISIONS BY THE BOARD OF MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION.***

#### **SUMMARY:**

By law, arbitrators operating under the Board of Mediation and Arbitration, which administers binding arbitration under the municipal and state employee collective bargaining laws, may issue either oral or written decisions. This bill requires a written decision to be signed no later than 60 days after the proceedings are concluded, rather than within 15 days as under current law. By law and unchanged by the bill, an oral decision issued immediately upon the conclusion of the proceedings must be submitted to the involved parties in writing within 15 days.

The bill also affects the timing of payments to the board's arbitrators. It requires the statutory payments to a single arbitrator or a panel of arbitrators to be made when they issue a decision, rather than when the proceedings conclude.

It leaves the per-day arbitrator payment unchanged. It also removes obsolete language regarding the per-day arbitrator pay.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2012

#### **BACKGROUND**

##### ***Board of Mediation and Arbitration***

The board provides mediation and arbitration services for (1) towns and their municipal unions under the Municipal Employee Relations Act and (2) the state and its employee unions under the State Employee Relations Act. It conducts binding interest arbitration according to those two laws and the board's enabling law.

By law, arbitrators are paid under the schedule shown below.

*Arbitrator Payments and Conditions*

<i>Arbitrator</i>	<i>Payment</i>
Each member of an arbitration panel	\$225
Panel member who prepares written decision	Additional \$175
Single arbitrator (no panel)	\$325
All arbitrators, each additional day beyond the first*	\$150
*Proceedings cannot extend beyond two days without the prior approval of the labor commissioner for each day	

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Labor and Public Employees Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 8      Nay 2      (03/06/2012)