

Raymond D. Shea
100 Randal Ave
West Hartford, CT 06110

Senator Osten, Representative Tercyak, members of the Labor committee, I write to raise my opposition to ~~HB645~~ **HB633 "AN INCREASE IN THE FILING FEE FOR THE STATE BOARD OF MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION."** As a permanent Labor Member this Honorable Board and one of six members who establish policies and procedures, I have grave concern for the lack of transparency by the unilateral action to Your Labor and Public Safety Committee, by the Deputy, without our complete knowledge of the filing fee increase.

The request for HB633 Committee was authored by the Deputy Commissioner of Labor, one who many years ago represented members of the International Brothers of Police Officers hereinafter, (IBPO). During that tenure there was a filing fee the same \$25 as is today and accepted as such.

for fear of retaliation and not being a registered Lobbyist, I feel compelled in behalf of my colleagues to offer opposition to the above stated Legislation.

Contrary to the Testimony of the Deputy Labor Commission I submit the following.

The current fee for filing for Arbitration of a grievance initiated by a Union is \$25.00 and has been in existence for many years never previously introduced. Legislation. The Municipality, too is required for payment of \$25.00, however, in some cases where the Municipality fails to pay and a large cost is built a receiver will be called upon for full payment however large. The proposed HB6333 is to increase the filing far too egregious an increase from the norm. For both The City and the Union. In actuality, it represents a 300 per cent unconscionable increase. Any sort of increase would cause both to find other avenues of approach for handling disputes and change the common denominator toward

good Labor/Management Relations. With a \$25 filing fee there is no budgetary burden either party such as that which would create the increase. Both parties pay the exact . filing fee, actually \$50, all of which goes to the General Fund of State Budget. The record would show in the 2011/2012 fiscal, 1,067 cases were received including both Public and Private sector. Simple arithmetic shows these figures add to \$58,350 to the State. Both the City and the Union would be harmed significantly should their long standing past practice be modified.. If, after all the years of consistency of filing fee would undo procedures on both City and Union. There is an old adage; "If it aint broke don't fix it. Therefore we would propose HB6333 not be raised for a vote.

Respectfully,

Raymond D Shea