



Town of Bolton

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Written Testimony

From

Joyce M. Stille, Administrative Officer

Town of Bolton

For

Labor & Public Employees Committee

February 2, 2015

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
(860) 649-8066
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RE: HB-5211 An Act Concerning Unfair Labor Practices and Arbitration Decision Timelines

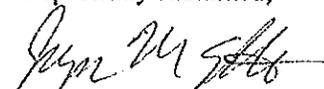
On behalf of the Town of Bolton, I am respectfully submitting the following written comments in support of HB-5211. This bill would require that decisions rendered pursuant to the arbitration of unfair labor practices be issued not later than sixty (60) days after the post-hearing briefs are filed.

Both the American Arbitration Association and current state statutes related to arbitration currently require awards to be issued within a specific time period. However, procedural delays in rendering unfair labor arbitration cases often occur. Delays can be up to six (6) months or a year. Especially for cases involving termination and back pay, such delays can severely impact our costs. From an operational perspective, the ongoing delay is non-productive and can unnecessarily create an adverse relationship within a department.

By requiring decisions in unfair labor arbitration cases to be issued within sixty (60) days, the proposed HB-5211 is a logical solution to address our concerns and those of our employees in a timely fashion. We strongly support passage of this proposal.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or if you wish to discuss this further.

Respectfully submitted,



Joyce M. Stille

Administrative Officer