

Labor and Public Employees Committee

JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: HB-6346

AN ACT CONCERNING THE REVIEW OF MUNICIPAL ARBITRATION

Title: AWARDS.

Vote Date: 3/21/2019

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 2/21/2019

File No.:

***Disclaimer:** The following JOINT FAVORABLE Report is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose.*

SPONSORS OF BILL:

Labor and Public Employees Committee.

REASONS FOR BILL:

There is no uniformity among municipalities when negotiating arbitration awards.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

Rep. Livvy R. Floren, One Hundred Forty-Ninth District, Assistant House Republican Leader: Currently, the legislative body of a municipality is given 25 days to meet and review an arbitration award. When a deadline ends on a weekend or legal holiday, the deadline is extended to the next business day. Former State Representative and now serving as Greenwich Town Attorney, John Wayne Fox as well as 12-term moderator Thomas J. Byrne support this change.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Thomas J. Byrne, Esq., Moderator, Greenwich Representative Town Meeting: State law provides the local legislative body an opportunity to reject a negotiated contract between the Town and a bargaining unit (under MERA and the Teacher Negotiation Act) within 30 days of filing the with the Town Clerk. In the event that parties proceed to arbitration, the law provides the legislative body an opportunity to reject an arbitration award within 25 days of receipt. Greenwich has difficulty preparing all documents needed and scheduling the special meeting (230 members). Both sides were willing to extend the time for the review but were advised the statute didn't allow for such voluntary extension. They request the statutes be

amended to permit voluntary extensions and ask that a local legislative body be permitted to reject a negotiated contract or an arbitration award within 30 days or at their next scheduled meeting, whichever is longer. There is no reasonable justification not to reject this.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None submitted.

Reported by: Marie Knudsen

Date: March 26, 2019