OLR Bill Analysis

HB 6566

AN ACT PROHIBITING MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES FROM SERVING ON CERTAIN MUNICIPAL LEGISLATIVE BODIES.

SUMMARY

Existing law, with certain exceptions, prohibits municipal employees from serving on a board of finance in the municipality in which they live and work. (The board of finance sets the municipal budget and mill rate.) This bill additionally prohibits municipal employees from serving on a local government body that exercises the powers of a board of finance, unless the municipal charter or home rule ordinance permits such service.

By law, municipal employees have the right to serve on a local government body in municipalities in which they both live and work, except:

1. boards of finance;
2. bodies exercising zoning, land use, or planning powers;
3. bodies regulating inland wetlands and watercourses; and
4. bodies responsible for supervising them directly as employees.

The second and third prohibitions do not apply if a local ordinance authorizes such service. Additionally, under current law, the first three prohibitions do not apply if (1) a local charter or home rule ordinance allows such service or (2) employees serve only in their capacity as a member of the municipality’s legislative body (i.e., ex officio). The bill eliminates the exception for ex officio service.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2019
COMMITTEE ACTION
Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable
Yea  16  Nay  5  (03/29/2019)