

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 21-98—sSB 904

Labor and Public Employees Committee

AN ACT CONCERNING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE LABOR DEPARTMENT'S EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION AND INCREASING THE COMPENSATION FOR STATE BOARD OF MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION MEMBERS

SUMMARY: This act makes the executive director of the Department of Labor's Employment Security Division a member of the state employee classified service (i.e., subject to various civil service procedures and requirements) and requires the executive director to devote full-time to the office's duties. By law, the division is responsible for various matters related to the state's unemployment compensation system, and the labor commissioner may (1) appoint its executive director, subject to the governor's approval; (2) set the position's pay, subject to approval from the governor and the Office of Policy and Management secretary; and (3) prescribe the position's duties.

The act also increases, from \$150 to \$325, the compensation that State Board of Mediation and Arbitration members receive for each extra day of presiding over a proceeding that lasts for more than one day. Under existing law, they also receive \$325 for the proceeding's first day. By law, no proceeding may last beyond two days without the labor commissioner's prior approval for each additional day.

In addition, the act increases, from \$150 to \$200, the compensation the board members receive upon concluding an executive panel session. In general, an executive panel session is a meeting of the arbitrators who presided over a proceeding as a three-member panel. The meeting is held to decide a case after its last hearing or briefing.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage, except that the provisions on the board's compensation are effective July 1, 2021.