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## **OLR Bill Analysis**

**sSB 215 (File 645, as amended by Senate "A")\***

### ***AN ACT CONCERNING ENGINEERING AND MAINTAINER POSITIONS AT THE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.***

#### **SUMMARY**

This bill requires the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) commissioner and the Department of Transportation (DOT) commissioner to take certain actions related to recruiting and hiring engineers, engineer interns, and maintainers.

The bill requires the DAS commissioner to recruit interns for the summer worker professional engineer job classification for DOT when the DOT commissioner requests she do so. Both commissioners must promote recruitment at public and independent institutions of higher education. Starting July 1, 2023, the bill also requires the DAS commissioner to annually increase the pay rate for this job classification by any percentage increase in the national consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical workers for the previous 12-month period.

From July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2025, the bill requires the DAS commissioner to engage in the ongoing successive recruitment of entry-level engineering and maintainer one positions and transportation maintainer two positions on DOT's behalf. It also requires DOT to (1) establish the duration of the application period for each recruitment and (2) make an employment offer or reject a candidate within 120 days after receiving a candidate's application for these positions.

Lastly, the bill allows the DOT commissioner to consider a candidate's application for another open position at the department without requiring the candidate to submit another application, as long as the candidate meets the minimum experience and training qualifications.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2022

\*Senate Amendment "A" (1) requires DAS to engage in ongoing successive recruitment of engineers and maintainers, rather than place the positions on continuous recruitment as the underlying bill required; (2) removes requirements that the bill's recruitment and wage provisions be implemented within available resources, (3) gives DOT 120 days, rather than 60 days, after a candidate's application to make an offer to or reject the candidate; (4) allows the DOT commissioner to consider a candidate for another open position; and (5) makes other minor changes and technical corrections.

## **BACKGROUND**

### ***Legislative History***

The Senate referred the bill (File 398) to the Appropriations Committee, which reported a substitute eliminating the appropriation for engineer recruitment and adding provisions stating the bill's recruitment and wage requirements must be implemented within available resources.

## **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Transportation Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 35 Nay 0 (03/24/2022)

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 48 Nay 0 (04/18/2022)