March 27, 2007

Intro. by Shaw.

S 1543. COLLECTIVE BARGAINING FOR GOVERNMENT WORKERS. Filed 3/27/07. PROVIDING FOR CONTRACTS BETWEEN PUBLIC EMPLOYERS AND LABOR ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTING PUBLIC EMPLOYEES FOR THE PURPOSE OF COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AND ESTABLISHING THE PUBLIC EMPLOYEE LABOR RELATIONS COMMISSION TO ENSURE FAIR DEALINGS BETWEEN PUBLIC EMPLOYERS AND LABOR ORGANIZATIONS.

Enacts new GS Chapter 95A to authorize public employees to organize for the purpose of collective bargaining and to create the Public Employee Labor Relations Commission. Commission is made up of five members appointed by the Governor and four members appointed by the General Assembly.

Requires that public employers meet and contract with a public employee organization that has been elected by a majority of the employees of the public employer. Contracts required to cover wages, hours, and other conditions or employment. Disputes between the employer and the employee organization, or failure to reach agreement as to wages, hours, or other working conditions, must be submitted to arbitration. Strikes are prohibited. Complaints about actions of either employees or employee organizations and appeals from arbitrations are heard by the Commission. Appeals from Commission decisions are to the Superior Court in Wake County. Repeals GS 95-98, which made illegal contracts between government units and labor unions. Makes conforming change to GS 120-123.

GS 95, 95A, 120