

1 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - FLOOR VERSION**

2 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

3 1st Session of the 60th Legislature (2025)

4 HOUSE BILL 1627

By: Caldwell (Trey) of the
House

5 and

6 **Hines** of the Senate

7
8
9
10 AS INTRODUCED

11 An Act relating to cities and towns; amending 11 O.S.
12 2021, Section 51-104b, which relates to the
13 prevention of unfair labor practice; modifying Public
14 Employees Relations Board powers; establishing
15 process for arbitrator selection in cases of unfair
16 labor practices; amending 11 O.S. 2021, Section 51-
17 110, which relates to fees and expenses; modifying
18 applicability; providing for codification; and
19 providing an effective date.

20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

21 SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 11 O.S. 2021, Section 51-104b, is
22 amended to read as follows:

23 Section 51-104b. A. The Public Employees Relations Board is
24 empowered, as hereinafter provided, to prevent any person, including

1 bargaining agent and corporate authorities, from engaging in any
2 unfair labor practice as defined herein.

3 B. Whenever it is charged that any person has engaged in or is
4 engaging in any such unfair labor practice, the Board shall have the
5 power to ~~issue and cause to be served upon such person a complaint~~
6 ~~stating the charges in that respect, and containing a notice of~~
7 ~~hearing before the Board, at a place therein fixed, not less than~~
8 ~~five (5) days after the serving of said complaint. The person so~~
9 ~~complained of shall have the right to file an answer and to appear~~
10 ~~and give testimony at the time and place fixed in the complaint. In~~
11 ~~the discretion of the Board, any other person may be allowed to~~
12 ~~intervene in such proceeding~~ set the matter for hearing, take
13 evidence, and decide the questions presented.

14 C. If upon the preponderance of the testimony taken the Board
15 shall be of the opinion that the person named in the complaint has
16 engaged in or is engaging in any such unfair labor practice, then
17 the Board shall state its findings of fact and shall issue and cause
18 to be served on such person an order requiring such person to cease
19 and desist from such unfair labor practice. Such order may further
20 require such person to make reports from time to time showing the
21 extent to which it has complied with the order. If upon the
22 preponderance of the testimony taken the Board shall not be of the
23 opinion that the person served in the complaint has engaged in or is
24 engaging in any such unfair labor practice, then the Board shall

1 state its findings of fact and shall issue an order dismissing the
2 complaint.

3 D. The Board, or any interested party, shall have the power to
4 petition the district court, wherein the unfair labor practice in
5 question occurred, for the enforcement of such order and for
6 appropriate temporary relief of restraining order.

7 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
8 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 51-107a of Title 11, unless
9 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

10 A. Whenever an employer or bargaining agent claims that an
11 unfair labor practice has been committed by the other, it shall
12 notify the other in writing, within six (6) months of the commission
13 of the alleged practice. Within ten (10) days of such notification,
14 each party shall each select and name one arbitrator and shall
15 immediately thereafter notify each other in writing of the name and
16 address of the person so selected. The two arbitrators so selected
17 and named shall, within five (5) days from and after the expiration
18 of the ten-day period hereinabove mentioned, agree upon and select a
19 third arbitrator. If, on the expiration of the period allowed
20 therefor, the arbitrators are unable to agree upon the selection of
21 a third arbitrator, the bargaining agent and the corporate
22 authorities shall request the Federal Mediation and Conciliation
23 Service to provide a list of five arbitrators.

24

1 B. Within ten (10) days after receipt of the list of
2 arbitrators from the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, the
3 two arbitrators already selected shall alternately strike the name
4 of one arbitrator from the list of five until one name remains, with
5 the party claiming an unfair labor practice has been committed
6 making the first strike from the list. The third arbitrator,
7 whether selected as a result of an agreement between the two
8 arbitrators previously selected or selected from the list provided
9 by the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service, shall act as
10 chairperson of the Arbitration Board. The chairperson of the
11 Arbitration Board shall schedule a hearing, take evidence, and
12 render a decision based thereon. Decisions of the former Public
13 Employees Relations Board and of the National Labor Relations Board
14 may be considered persuasive on the issues presented.

15 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 11 O.S. 2021, Section 51-110, is
16 amended to read as follows:

17 Section 51-110. Fees and necessary expenses of the arbitrator
18 selected by the bargaining agent and the arbitrator selected by the
19 corporate authorities shall be borne by the bargaining agent and the
20 corporate authorities respectively. The reasonable fees and
21 necessary expenses of the third arbitrator shall be borne equally by
22 the bargaining agent and corporate authorities. This provision
23 applies for interest arbitration, consideration of alleged unfair
24

1 labor practices, and for certification, decertification, election or
2 determination of the bargaining representative.

3 SECTION 4. This act shall become effective November 1, 2025.
4

5 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON RULES, dated 03/05/2025 - DO PASS,
6 As Coauthored.
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24