



Senate Fiscal Agency  
P.O. Box 30036  
Lansing, Michigan 48909-7536



Telephone: (517) 373-5383  
Fax: (517) 373-1986

Senate Bill 1167 (Substitute S-2 as passed by the Senate)  
Sponsor: Senator Veronica Klinefelt  
Committee: Labor

Date Completed: 1-29-25

## **CONTENT**

**The bill would amend the public employment relations Act to specify that collective bargaining between a public police or fire department bargaining unit and its employer would include minimum staffing levels within the bargaining unit; however, the bill would make this requirement voluntary if the public employer had collected less sales tax and property tax revenue than the previous fiscal year.**

Under the Act, representatives designated or selected for purposes of collective bargaining by the majority of the public employees in a unit are the exclusive representatives of all the public employees in the unit for the purposes of collective bargaining with respect to rates of pay, wages, hours of employment, or other conditions of employment. These individuals are known as collective bargaining representatives. The Act requires a public employer to bargain collectively with its employee's collective bargaining representatives concerning the same matters.

Under the bill, for employees subject to Public Act (PA) 312 of 1969, collective bargaining with respect to "other conditions of employment" would include, minimum staffing levels within the bargaining unit; however, if, as compared to the immediately preceding fiscal year, there were a reduction in the amount of sales tax revenue the public employer received from revenue sharing or a reduction in property tax collections due to a reduction in the total taxable value of the public employer, the public employer could, but would not have to, collectively bargain with employees subject to PA 312 of 1969 with respect to minimum staffing levels within the bargaining unit. For employees not subject to PA 312 of 1969, the requirements above would not prohibit the employees from collective bargaining with respect to minimum staffing levels within the bargaining unit.

(Public Act 312 of 1969 governs compulsory arbitration for public police or fire department employees, who generally include local government police department and fire department employees, county corrections officers, emergency medical service personnel employed by public police or fire, and emergency telephone operators employed by public police or fire.)

MCL 423.211 & 423.215

## **BRIEF RATIONALE**

According to testimony, firefighters in Michigan have some of the lowest staffing levels per capita in the Midwest with approximately 50 firefighters per 100,000 people. Testimony also indicates that neighboring states like Wisconsin and Ohio have 82 and 111 firefighters per 100,000 people, respectively. Some have concern that these low staffing levels place Michigan residents at a higher risk from fire. The bill would allow public safety officers to negotiate with municipalities on staffing levels, which could improve the State's firefighter per capita ratio.

Legislative Analyst: Alex Krabill

## **FISCAL IMPACT**

The bill would have no fiscal impact on the State and an indeterminate fiscal impact on local governmental units. There are approximately 18,000 police officers and 8,700 full-time paid firefighters that would be subject to the bill.

Fiscal Analysts: Bruce R. Baker  
Bobby Canell

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This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan Senate staff for use by the Senate in its deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.