



Pennsylvania Conference of Teamsters

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LEGISLATIVE ACTION ALERT

BINDING ARBITRATION FOR SEPTA CONTRACTS PA SB 829 INTRODUCED ON 7/6/2017

PA Senate Bill 829 was introduced by Senator Street and Senator Costa on July 6, 2017. This legislation will authorize arbitration in the event of an impasse during collective bargaining negotiations between the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) and its employees. This legislation will facilitate that goal by providing a timeline for those

negotiations. Specifically, negotiations are to begin six months before the expiration of the most recent contract. If there is an impasse on certain issues after 60 days of negotiating, either party can request the appointment of a three-member arbitration board that will help resolve those issues. This will be an amendment to **Act 195**.

PA Act 195 PUBLIC EMPLOYE RELATIONS ACT

Establishing rights in public employes to organize and bargain collectively through selected representatives; defining public employes to include employes of nonprofit organizations and institutions; providing compulsory mediation and fact-finding, for collective bargaining impasses; providing arbitration for certain public employes for collective bargaining impasses; defining the scope of collective bargaining; establishing unfair employe and employer practices; prohibiting strikes for certain public employes; permitting strikes under limited conditions; providing penalties for violations; and establishing procedures for implementation.

Senate of Pennsylvania - Senate Co-Sponsorship Memoranda Session of 2017 - 2018 Regular Session

MEMORANDUM

Posted: June 21, 2017 01:07 PM
From: Senator Sharif Street
To: All Senate members
Subject: Binding Arbitration for SEPTA Contracts

I will be introducing legislation authorizing arbitration in the event of an impasse during collective bargaining negotiations between the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) and its employees

SEPTA's service is vital to the Southeastern Pennsylvania area as many citizens rely on SEPTA in their daily commute to work and overall travel. When an interruption in service occurs due to a strike, those individuals are often stranded with no means to move about their communities.

Arbitration allows for an unbiased third party to help resolve disputes between two parties, and is an effective tool in ensuring that collective bargaining negotiations do not result in interruptions of service. This legislation will facilitate that goal by providing a timeline for those negotiations. Specifically, negotiations are to begin six months before the expiration of the most recent contract. If there is an impasse on certain issues after 60 days of negotiating, either party can request the appointment of a three-member arbitration board that will help resolve those issues.

Please join me in sponsoring this important legislation that will benefit many citizens of the Commonwealth. If you have any questions, contact my Policy Director, Micah Mahjoubian, at micah@pasenate.com.

The International Transport Workers of America, AFL-CIO (TWU Local 234) represents over 5,000 employees at the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) and also represents workers in Upper Darby Township, at Hyundai-Rotem in South Philadelphia and MV Transit.

PA SB 829 can be viewed in it's entirety at:

<http://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/billInfo/billInfo.cfm?sYear=2017&sInd=0&body=S&type=B&bn=0829>

