

# HOUSE BILL NO. 6294

December 13, 2024, Introduced by Rep. O'Neal and referred to the Committee on Government Operations.

A bill to amend 1969 PA 312, entitled

"An act to provide for compulsory arbitration of labor disputes in municipal police and fire departments; to define such public departments; to provide for the selection of members of arbitration panels; to prescribe the procedures and authority thereof; and to provide for the enforcement and review of awards thereof,"

by amending the title and sections 1 and 2 (MCL 423.231 and 423.232), section 2 as amended by 2023 PA 171, and by adding section 15.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

## 1 TITLE

2 An act to provide for compulsory arbitration of labor disputes  
 3 ~~in municipal police and fire departments; to define such public~~  
 4 ~~departments; **for public employees;** to provide for the selection of~~  
 5 members of arbitration panels; to prescribe the procedures and  
 6 authority thereof; and to provide for the enforcement and review of  
 7 awards thereof.

8 Sec. 1. It is the public policy of this state that ~~in public~~  
 9 ~~police and fire departments, where the~~ **for public employees, whose**  
 10 ~~right of employees to strike is by law prohibited,~~ it is requisite  
 11 to the high morale of such employees and the efficient operation of  
 12 ~~such departments~~ **public entities** to afford an alternate,  
 13 expeditious, effective, and binding procedure for the resolution of  
 14 disputes, and to that end the provisions of this act, providing for  
 15 compulsory arbitration, shall be liberally construed.

16 Sec. 2. ~~(1)~~ As used in this act, ÷

17 ~~(a) "Emergency medical service personnel" includes a person~~  
 18 ~~who provides assistance at dispatched or observed medical~~  
 19 ~~emergencies occurring outside a recognized medical facility~~  
 20 ~~including instances of heart attack, stroke, injury accidents,~~  
 21 ~~electrical accidents, drug overdoses, imminent childbirth, and~~  
 22 ~~other instances where there is the possibility of death or further~~  
 23 ~~injury; initiates stabilizing treatment or transportation of~~  
 24 ~~injured from the emergency site; and notifies police or interested~~  
 25 ~~departments of certain situations encountered including criminal~~  
 26 ~~matters, poisonings, and the report of contagious diseases.~~

27 ~~(b) "Emergency telephone operator" includes a person employed~~  
 28 ~~by a police or fire department for the purpose of relaying~~  
 29 ~~emergency calls to police, fire, or emergency medical service~~

1 personnel.

2 ~~(c) "Institution of higher education" means any of the~~  
3 ~~following:~~

4 ~~(i) An institution of higher education described in section 4~~  
5 ~~or 6 of article VIII of the state constitution of 1963.~~

6 ~~(ii) A community or junior college described in section 7 of~~  
7 ~~article VIII of the state constitution of 1963.~~

8 ~~(d) "Public "public police or fire department employee" means any~~  
9 ~~employee of a city, county, village, township, or institution of~~  
10 ~~higher education, or of any authority, district, board, or any~~  
11 ~~other entity created in whole or in part by the authorization of 1~~  
12 ~~or more cities, counties, villages, townships, or institutions of~~  
13 ~~higher education, whether created by statute, ordinance, contract,~~  
14 ~~resolution, delegation, or any other mechanism, who is engaged as a~~  
15 ~~police officer or in firefighting or who is subject to the hazards~~  
16 ~~thereof; a corrections officer employed by a county sheriff in a~~  
17 ~~county jail, work camp, or other facility maintained by a county~~  
18 ~~and that houses adult prisoners; emergency medical service~~  
19 ~~personnel employed by a public police or fire department; or an~~  
20 ~~emergency telephone operator, but only if directly employed by a~~  
21 ~~public police or fire department. Public police or fire department~~  
22 ~~employee does not include any of the following:~~

23 ~~(i) An employee of a metropolitan district created under 1939~~  
24 ~~PA 147, MCL 119.51 to 119.62.~~

25 ~~(ii) An emergency telephone operator employed by a 9-1-1~~  
26 ~~authority or consolidated dispatch center.~~

27 ~~(iii) An employee of an authority that is in existence on June~~  
28 ~~1, 2011, unless the employee is represented by a bargaining~~  
29 ~~representative on that date, or a contract in effect on that date~~

1 ~~specifically provides the employee with coverage under this act. An~~  
2 ~~exclusion under this subparagraph terminates if the authority~~  
3 ~~composition changes to include an additional governmental unit or a~~  
4 ~~portion of a governmental unit. This subparagraph does not~~  
5 ~~terminate an exclusion created under subparagraphs (i) to (iii).~~

6 ~~(2) This act does not apply to persons employed by a private~~  
7 ~~emergency medical service company who work under a contract with a~~  
8 ~~governmental unit or personnel working in an emergency service~~  
9 ~~organization whose duties are solely of an administrative or~~  
10 ~~supporting nature and who are not otherwise qualified under~~  
11 ~~subsection (1) (a).~~ **a public employee as that term is defined in**  
12 **section 1 of 1947 PA 336, MCL 423.201.**

13 **Sec. 15. An award issued by an arbitration panel under this**  
14 **act that involves an employee in the classified state civil service**  
15 **does not take effect unless the award is approved by the civil**  
16 **service commission.**