



General Assembly

February Session, 2026

**Raised Bill No. 350**

LCO No. 1646



Referred to Committee on LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES

Introduced by:  
(LAB)

**AN ACT INCREASING THE PER DIEM RATE FOR MEMBERS OF THE STATE BOARD OF LABOR RELATIONS AND COMPENSATION FOR MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 31-102 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
3 *1, 2026*):

4 (a) There shall continue to be in the Labor Department the  
5 Connecticut State Board of Labor Relations, which shall be composed of  
6 three members. On or before June first in the odd-numbered years, as  
7 the term of each member expires, the Governor shall, with the advice  
8 and consent of the General Assembly, appoint a successor to serve for a  
9 term of six years. Each member of the board shall have been an elector  
10 in this state for at least one year next preceding his appointment. Any  
11 member may be removed by the Governor for cause shown in a public  
12 hearing after the accused has been given a copy of the charges made and  
13 has had an opportunity to answer such charges. The Governor shall fill  
14 any vacancy by appointment for the unexpired term. No member shall

15 receive a salary but each member shall be paid [one hundred fifty] three  
16 hundred dollars in lieu of expenses for each day during which he is  
17 engaged in the duties of the board. The offices of the board shall be in  
18 the department at Wethersfield. The board is authorized to hold  
19 hearings at any place in this state. Subject to the provisions of chapter  
20 67, the board shall appoint such employees, including an assistant to the  
21 agent, for such periods as may be necessary to carry out the work of the  
22 board and the provisions of this chapter without undue delay. All files,  
23 records and documents accumulated by the board shall be kept in  
24 offices provided by the department. All decisions shall be made by a  
25 majority of the board and a copy shall be filed with the commissioner.  
26 As provided in section 4-60 and more frequently if required by the  
27 governor, the board shall make a written report to the Governor, a copy  
28 of which shall be filed with the commissioner.

29 Sec. 2. Section 31-98 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
30 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2026*):

31 (a) The panel, or its single member if sitting in accordance with  
32 section 31-93, may, in its discretion and with the consent of the parties,  
33 issue an oral decision immediately upon conclusion of the proceedings.  
34 If the decision is to be in writing, it shall be signed, within fifteen days,  
35 by a majority of the members of the panel or by the single member so  
36 sitting, and the decision shall state such details as will clearly show the  
37 nature of the decision and the points disposed of by the panel. Where  
38 the decision is in writing, one copy thereof shall be filed by the panel in  
39 the office of the town clerk in the town where the controversy arose and  
40 one copy shall be given to each of the parties to the controversy. The  
41 panel or single member which has rendered an oral decision  
42 immediately upon conclusion of the proceedings shall submit a written  
43 copy of the decision to each party within fifteen days from the issuance  
44 of such oral decision. In all cases where a decision is rendered orally  
45 from the bench, the secretary shall cause such oral decision to be  
46 transcribed, approved by the panel or single member as applicable and  
47 filed with the records of the board proceedings.

48 (b) Upon the conclusion of the proceedings, each member of the panel  
49 shall receive [three hundred twenty-five] five hundred dollars and a  
50 panel member who prepares a written decision shall receive an  
51 additional [five hundred] one thousand dollars, or the single member,  
52 if sitting in accordance with section 31-93, shall receive [three hundred  
53 twenty-five] five hundred dollars, provided if the proceedings extend  
54 beyond one day, each member shall receive [three hundred twenty-five]  
55 five hundred dollars for each additional day beyond the first day, and  
56 provided further no proceeding may be extended beyond two days  
57 without the prior approval of the Labor Commissioner for each such  
58 additional day.

59 (c) Upon the conclusion of an executive panel session, each member  
60 of such panel shall receive [two] three hundred dollars.

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|---|------------------------|-----------|
| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: |                        |           |
| Section 1   | <i>October 1, 2026</i> | 31-102(a) |
| Sec. 2  | <i>October 1, 2026</i> | 31-98     |

**Statement of Purpose:**

To increase (1) the per diem rate for regular and alternative members of the State Board of Labor Relations, and (2) the compensation the State Board of Mediation and Arbitration members receive for their services.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*