**℄** 12-23-03 7:23 AM **℄** 

AMENDMENTS TO MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT
2004 GENERAL SESSION
STATE OF UTAH
Sponsor: Thomas V. Hatch
LONG TITLE
General Description:
This bill modifies provisions of the Utah Municipal Code relating to municipal officers
and employees.
Highlighted Provisions:
This bill:
<ul> <li>modifies the officers and employees of a municipality to whom certain provisions</li> </ul>
relating to the duration of employment and appeals from employment decisions
apply;
<ul><li>modifies the composition of an appeal board for employment decisions;</li></ul>
<ul><li>modifies the process for appealing an action or decision of the appeal board;</li></ul>
<ul> <li>expands circumstances covered by provisions relating to limitations on taking</li> </ul>
negative employment action;
<ul> <li>requires rather than permits the appeal board to provide that an employee receive</li> </ul>
back salary if the board finds in favor of the employee; and
makes technical changes.
Monies Appropriated in this Bill:
None
Other Special Clauses:
None
<b>Utah Code Sections Affected:</b>
AMENDS:



S.B. 23 12-23-03 7:23 AM

<b>10-3-1105</b> , as enacted by Chapter 48, Laws of Utah 1977	
<b>10-3-1106</b> , as enacted by Chapter 48, Laws of Utah 1977	
Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:	
Section 1. Section 10-3-1105 is amended to read:	
10-3-1105. Municipal employees Duration and termination of employm	ient
Exceptions.	
[All appointive officers and employees of municipalities, other than members of	of the
police departments, fire departments, heads of departments, and superintendents,]	
(1) Except as provided in Subsection (2), each employee of a municipality sha	ll hold
[their] employment without limitation of time, being subject to discharge [or dismissal	l only as
hereinafter provided.], suspension without pay, or transfer to a position with less remu	neration
only as provided in Section 10-3-1106.	
(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to:	
(a) an officer appointed by the mayor or other person or body exercising execu	<u>ıtive</u>
power in the municipality;	
(b) a member of the municipality's police department or fire department who i	<u>s a</u>
member of the classified civil service in a first or second class city;	
(c) a police chief of the municipality;	
(d) a deputy police chief of the municipality;	
(e) a fire chief of the municipality;	
(f) a deputy fire chief of the municipality;	
(g) a head of a municipal department;	
(h) a deputy of a head of a municipal department;	
(i) a superintendent;	
(j) a probationary employee of the municipality; or	
(k) a seasonal employee of the municipality.	
Section 2. Section 10-3-1106 is amended to read:	
10-3-1106. Discharge, suspension without pay, or transfer Appeals B	oard
Procedure.	
(1) [No officer or] An employee [covered by] to which Section 10-3-1105 [sha	a <del>ll</del> ]

12-23-03 7:23 AM S.B. 23

59 applies may not be discharged, suspended without pay, or transferred to a position with less 60 remuneration: (a) because of [his] the employee's politics or religious belief[-]; or 61 62 (b) incident to, or through changes, either in the elective officers, governing body, or 63 heads of departments. [In all cases where any officer or] 64 (2) If an employee is discharged, suspended without pay, or transferred from one 65 position to another for any reason, [he shall have the right to] the employee may appeal the 66 discharge, suspension without pay, or transfer to a board to be known as the appeal board 67 [which shall consist of five members, three of whom shall be chosen by and from the 68 appointive officers and employees, and two of whom shall be members of the governing body], 69 established under Subsection (7). 70 [(2) The] (3) (a) Each appeal under Subsection (2) shall be taken by filing written 71 notice of the appeal with the recorder within ten days after the discharge, suspension, or 72 transfer. 73 (b) (i) Upon the filing of [the] an appeal under Subsection (3)(a), the city recorder shall 74 forthwith refer a copy of the [same] appeal to the appeal board. (ii) Upon receipt of the referral from the municipal recorder, the appeal board shall 75 76 forthwith commence its investigation, take and receive evidence, and fully hear and determine 77 the matter which relates to the cause for the discharge, suspension, or transfer. 78 [(3) The] (4) An employee [shall be entitled to] who is the subject of the discharge, 79 suspension, or transfer may: 80 (a) appear in person and [to] be represented by counsel[, to]; 81 (b) have a public hearing[, to]; 82 (c) confront the witness whose testimony is to be considered[7]; and [to] 83 (d) examine the evidence to be considered by the appeal board. 84 [(4) In the event the appeal board upholds the discharge or transfer, the officer or 85 employee may have 14 days thereafter to appeal to the governing body whose decision shall be final. In the event the appeal board does not uphold the discharge or transfer the case shall be 86 87 closed and no further proceedings shall be had.] 88 (5) [The] (a) Each decision of the appeal board shall be by secret ballot, and shall be

certified to the recorder with 15 days from the date the matter is referred to it. [The board may,

89

S.B. 23 12-23-03 7:23 AM

in its decision,

(b) If it finds in favor of the employee, the board shall provide that [an] the employee shall receive [his]:

- (i) the employee's salary for the period of time during which [he] the employee is discharged[5] or suspended without pay; or
- (ii) any deficiency in salary for the period [he] during which the employee was transferred to a position of less remuneration [but not to exceed a 15 day period. In no case shall the appointive officer or employee be discharged or transferred, where an appeal is taken, except upon a concurrence of at least a majority of the membership of the governing body of the municipality].
- [(6) In the event that the appeal board does not uphold the discharge, or transfer, the recorder shall certify the decision to the employee affected, and also to the head of the department from whose order the appeal was taken. The employee shall be paid his salary, commencing with the next working day following the certification by the recorder of the appeal board's decision, provided that the employee, or officer, concerned reports for his assigned duties during that next working day.]
- (6) (a) An employee who is the subject of a final action or order of the appeal board may appeal the action or order to the Court of Appeals by filing with that court a notice of appeal.
- (b) Each notice of appeal under Subsection (6)(a) shall be filed within 30 days after the issuance of the final action or order of the appeal board.
- (c) The Court of Appeals' review shall be on the record of the appeal board and for the purpose of determining if the appeal board abused its discretion or exceeded its authority.
- (7) (a) The method and manner of choosing the members of the appeal board, [and] the number of members, the designation of their terms of office, and the procedure for conducting an appeal shall be prescribed by the governing body of each municipality by ordinance[, but the provisions for choosing the three members from the appointed officers and employees shall in no way restrict a free selection of members by the appointive officers and employees of the municipality].
- (b) For a municipality operating under a form of government other than a council-mayor form under Part 12, Optional Forms of Municipal Government Act, an

12-23-03 7:23 AM S.B. 23

ordinance adopted under Subsection (7)(a) may provide that the governing body of the

municipality shall serve as the appeal board.

## Legislative Review Note as of 12-2-03 3:31 PM

A limited legal review of this legislation raises no obvious constitutional or statutory concerns.

Office of Legislative Research and General Counsel