

# **One Hundred Second Legislature - First Session - 2011**

## **Introducer's Statement of Intent**

### **LB623**

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**Chairperson: Senator Steve Lathrop**

**Committee: Business and Labor**

**Date of Hearing: February 07, 2011**

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

Under current law, Douglas County has been unable to layoff employees pending a labor dispute. LB 623 would allow Douglas County to layoff employees for legitimate budgetary reasons.

The Commission of Industrial Relations has refused to rule on most aspects of an employer's health insurance and pension plans because of the difficulty in comparability. Removing health insurance and pension plans would simplify the CIR process. Additionally, the CIR considers elements of the employer health insurance plans moot when the CIR decision is rendered outside of the contract year in dispute, which occurs in the vast majority of CIR cases. LB 623 would remove insurance and pension from the jurisdiction of the Commission on Industrial Relations involving disputes among counties within a metropolitan class.

LB 623 would expand the possible arrays for Douglas County to one-fourth the size and twice the size. This would allow more counties to be considered that are closer in proximity to Douglas County. Also, LB 623 would allow for a comparison of public and private sector employers.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Senator Scott Lautenbaugh**