

ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2013
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB208

Hearing Date: Tuesday February 12, 2013
Committee On: Urban Affairs
Introducer: Harr
One Liner: Change provisions relating to metropolitan utilities districts

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File

Vote Results:

Aye:	6	Senators Coash, Karpisek, Krist, Lautenbaugh, McGill, Murante
Nay:		
Absent:	1	Senator Ashford
Present Not Voting:		

Proponents:

Senator Harr
Rick Kubat
Robert Ed Conner Jr.

Representing:

self
Metropolitan Utilities District
IBEW 1521

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 208 makes changes

Comments/Analysis:

Section one of the bill amends 14-2109 by striking language and eliminating the requirement that the Metropolitan Utilities District board obtain a bond of at least \$10,000 dollars. It further removes the language that prevented the board from decreasing the president's salary. It also changes the statutory limit on annual salary of any officer or employee of the Metropolitan Utilities District from ten thousand dollars to seventy-five thousand dollars, unless approved by a vote of two-thirds or more of the members of the board of directors.

Section two of the bill amends 14-2110 by removing the language and whose name has been placed, by a unanimous vote of the full board of directors, upon the permanent employees list provided for in the rules adopted by the board, and further removes language requiring a two thirds vote of the full board for removal from their position, and then only for cause. The removal of this language applies directly to how employees who have worked for MUD for more than one year are terminated or removed.

Section two also adds a new section, which would create a new procedure for the removal of a permanent employee for cause, which requires notice given in writing, which is to include findings of fact to support the removal for cause. It also provides for the employee to appeal the removal within ten days after receipt of the notice to a committee of three directors chosen by the board of directors. The committee would do a de novo review of the appeal and has the authority to grant the appeal with a two thirds vote of the committee.

Section three of the bill amends 14-2126 which strikes the requirement that regular fire hydrants be approximately four hundred feet apart within the municipality, and adds new language which allows the board of directors to adopt such rules for the placement and maintenance of the fire hydrants so long as the rules do not violate any rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the Department of Health and Human Services.

Amanda McGill, Chairperson