

Committee Name:

**JOINT SURVEY COMMITTEE – RETIREMENT SYSTEMS
(JSC–RS)**

Appointments

89hr_JSC–RS_Appt_pt00

Clearinghouse Rules

89hr_JSC–RS_CRule_89–

Committee Hearings

89hr_JSC–RS_CH_pt00

Committee Reports

89hr_JSC–RS_CR_pt00

Executive Sessions

89hr_JSC–RS_ES_pt00

Hearing Records

89hr_ab0073

89hr_sb0000

Misc.

89hr_JSC–RS_Misc_pt89

Record of Committee Proceedings

89hr_JSC–RS_RCP_pt00

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TO: Representative Huber and Senator Te Winkle

FROM: Dennis Boyer, Government Relations Counsel

SUBJECT: AB 73/Prosecution System

DATE: February 27, 1989

There is some merit to the concept embodied in AB 73.

It makes sense for the State to assume these costs.

We are not convinced, however, that the provisions of AB 73 dealing with collective bargaining are appropriate. The bill would place assistant D.A.s in the same bargaining unit as other state attorneys.

This could lead to conflicts of interest between the very distinct roles of prosecutors (who may be dealing with wrongdoing within state agencies) and departmental legal counsel.

In addition, many of these assistant D.A.s are presently represented by collective bargaining agents in a number of unions and independent associations.

For these reasons we believe it is appropriate to amend AB 73 in a way that would create a new collective bargaining unit for assistant D.A.s. This could be accomplished through a simple amendment to Wis. Stats. 111.825 by creating an item "10. Assistant district attorneys" under 111.825(1)(f).

This would permit the employees to chart their own future course and decide themselves if they want to bargain and who should represent them.

Please contact us if we could be of assistance in sorting this out.

DB:jk
OPEIU-2

xc: AB 73 co-sponsors

in the public service

American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO

