

RESOLVED, that PSATS seek legislation to create a Bi-Partisan Oversight Committee to review the awards by Arbitrators in Collective Bargaining Arbitrations to consider their appropriateness, especially in the context of the ability of a municipal body's ability to pay such awards.

Explanation of Need for Resolution:

Act 111 stipulates that "The Board of arbitration shall be composed of three persons, one appointed by the public employer, one appointed by the body of policemen or firemen involved, and a third member to be agreed upon by the public employer and such policemen or firemen." In most cases, the third member is then selected through process from a list of three members furnished by the American Arbitration Association (AAA).

According to the AAA's website, one of the qualifications for a position of arbitrator includes the "[t]horough and impartial evaluation of testimony and other evidence." We believe neutral arbitrators are currently unsuccessful in fulfilling this stated qualification and thus need a Bi-Partisan Oversight Committee to ensure binding awards reflect a municipal body's ability to fund said awards.