

Agency 77 - Commission Of Industrial Relations

Statutory Authority:

The 1920 Constitutional Convention amended the state constitution by enacting Article XV, Section 9 to allow for the creation of the Commission and the Commission (formerly called Court) was created in 1947 for the purpose of settling industrial disputes between management and labor in the public sector. The Commission administers two acts - the Industrial Relations Act, which can be found at Section 48-801 et. seq. and the State Employees Collective Bargaining Act which can be found at Section 81-1369 et. seq.

Vision Statement:

Our vision is that Nebraska citizens obtain uninterrupted public services and that unions and management settle their disputes amicably but have access to a forum for resolution when they can not.

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Commission of Industrial Relations is to assist public employees and management in three areas of dispute: questions of representation, wage determinations and "other" category. The Commission determines appropriate bargaining units, conducts elections, establishes wages and conditions of employment when impasse is reached, and orders the parties back to bargaining, to mediation or to factfinding and determines what topics are bargainable and what prohibited practices have been committed by either labor or management. The Commission does not take action unless a petition has been filed with it.

Our principles include maintaining neutrality and upholding the statutory guidelines in our decision-making.

Goals:

Goals for the agency are as follows:

1. To render decisions that comply with statutory provisions.
2. To function efficiently within statutory guidelines.

Financial Data:

	Actual FY00	Approp FY01	Request FY02	Recom FY02	Request FY03	Recom FY03
General Fund	175,411	231,938	248,793	239,185	242,918	248,081
Cash Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Federal Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Revolving Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Fund	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Agency	175,411	231,938	248,793	239,185	242,918	248,081

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Program Objectives:

Goal #1 - To render decisions that comply with statutory provisions.

Objective - Render fewer decisions that get appealed.

Goal #2 - To function efficiently within statutory guidelines.

Objective - To hold a hearing within 60 days from the date of the filing of a petition and enter an order within 30 days after the receipt of the record of the hearing and briefs have been filed by the parties, unless the parties waive these time limits or for good cause shown on the record. This gives the Commission approximately 120 days to render recommended findings and order in a 48-818 wage case and an order in all other types of cases.

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Performance Measures:

The measurement of achievement for Goal #1 is shown in Table C which shows appeals and their outcomes since the Commission was founded. The achievement of Goal #2 is our performance record as shown in Table D. We believe we have achieved a stronger record in the appeals area and we have greatly improved the number of days on our docket since the 1970's but need to improve over our performance of the last few fiscal years.