By: Watson, Hinojosa

S.B. No. 764

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

	AN ACT

- 2 relating to the right of certain municipalities to maintain local
- 3 control over wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of
- 4 employment.
- 5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
- 6 SECTION 1. Chapter 146, Local Government Code, is amended
- 7 by designating Sections 146.001, 146.002, 146.003, 146.004,
- 8 146.005, 146.006, 146.007, 146.008, 146.009, 146.010, 146.011,
- 9 146.012, 146.013, 146.014, 146.015, 146.016, and 146.017 as
- 10 Subchapter A and adding a subchapter heading to read as follows:
- 11 SUBCHAPTER A. MUNICIPALITY WITH POPULATION OF 1.5 MILLION OR MORE
- 12 SECTION 2. Sections 146.001 through 146.004, Local
- 13 Government Code, are amended to read as follows:
- Sec. 146.001. APPLICABILITY. (a) This subchapter
- 15 [chapter] applies only to a municipality with a population of 1.5
- 16 million or more.
- 17 (b) This <u>subchapter</u> [chapter] does not apply to:
- 18 (1) firefighters or police officers who are covered by
- 19 Subchapter H, I, or J of Chapter 143 or by Chapter 174; or
- 20 (2) an employee association in which those employees
- 21 participate.
- Sec. 146.002. DEFINITIONS. In this <u>subchapter</u> [chapter]:
- 23 (1) "Covered employee" means an employee of a
- 24 municipality, other than a department head or a firefighter or

- 1 police officer who is covered by Subchapter H, I, or J of Chapter
- 2 143 or by Chapter 174.
- 3 (2) "Employee association" means an organization in
- 4 which municipal employees participate and that exists for the
- 5 purpose, wholly or partly, of dealing with one or more employers,
- 6 whether public or private, concerning grievances, labor disputes,
- 7 wages, rates of pay, hours of employment, or conditions of work
- 8 affecting public employees and whose members pay dues by means of an
- 9 automatic payroll deduction.
- 10 (3) "Public employer" means any municipality or
- 11 agency, board, commission, or political subdivision controlled by a
- 12 municipality that is required to establish the wages, salaries,
- 13 rates of pay, hours, working conditions, and other terms and
- 14 conditions of employment of public employees. The term may
- 15 include, under appropriate circumstances, a mayor, manager,
- 16 administrator of a municipality, municipal governing body,
- 17 director of personnel, personnel board, or one or more other
- 18 officials regardless of the name by which they are designated.
- 19 Sec. 146.003. GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO AGREEMENTS AND
- 20 RECOGNITION. (a) A municipality may not be denied local control
- 21 over the wages, salaries, rates of pay, hours of work, other terms
- 22 and conditions of employment, or other state-mandated personnel
- 23 issues. A public employer may enter into a mutual agreement
- 24 governing these issues with an employee association recognized
- 25 under this <u>subchapter</u> [chapter] as the sole and exclusive
- 26 bargaining agent for all covered employees that does not advocate
- 27 the illegal right to strike by municipal employees. The applicable

- 1 statutes, local ordinances, and civil service rules govern a term
- 2 or condition of employment on which the public employer and the
- 3 association do not agree.
- 4 (b) An agreement under this <u>subchapter</u> [chapter] must be 5 written.
- 6 (c) This <u>subchapter</u> [chapter] does not require the public
- 7 employer and the recognized employee association to meet and confer
- 8 or reach an agreement on any issue.
- 9 (d) This <u>subchapter</u> [chapter] does not authorize an
- 10 agreement regarding pension or pension-related matters governed by
- 11 Chapter 88 (H.B. 1573), Acts of the 77th Legislature, Regular
- 12 Session, 2001 (Article 6243h, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes)
- 13 [Chapter 358, Acts of the 48th Legislature, Regular Session, 1943
- 14 (Article 6243g, Vernon's Texas Civil Statues)], or a successor
- 15 statute.
- 16 Sec. 146.004. PETITION FOR RECOGNITION: ELECTION OR ACTION
- 17 BY GOVERNING BODY. (a) Not later than the 30th day after the date
- 18 the governing body of a municipality receives from an employee
- 19 association a petition signed by the majority of all covered
- 20 employees that requests recognition of the association as the sole
- 21 and exclusive bargaining agent for all the covered employees, the
- 22 governing body shall:
- 23 (1) grant recognition of the association as requested
- 24 in the petition and find that a public employer may meet and confer
- 25 under this subchapter [chapter] without conducting an election by
- 26 the voters in the municipality under Section 146.006;
- 27 (2) defer granting recognition of the association and

- 1 order an election by the voters in the municipality under Section
- 2 146.006 regarding whether a public employer may meet and confer
- 3 under this subchapter [chapter]; or
- 4 (3) order a certification election under Section
- 5 146.005 to determine whether the association represents a majority
- 6 of the covered employees.
- 7 (b) If the governing body of a municipality orders a
- 8 certification election under Subsection (a)(3) and the association
- 9 named in the petition is certified to represent a majority of the
- 10 covered employees, the governing body shall, not later than the
- 11 30th day after the date that results of that election are certified:
- 12 (1) grant recognition of the association as requested
- 13 in the petition for recognition and find that a public employer may
- 14 meet and confer under this subchapter [chapter] without conducting
- 15 an election by the voters in the municipality under Section
- 16 146.006; or
- 17 (2) defer granting recognition of the association and
- 18 order an election by the voters in the municipality under Section
- 19 146.006 regarding whether a public employer may meet and confer
- 20 under this subchapter [chapter].
- 21 SECTION 3. The heading to Section 146.006, Local Government
- 22 Code, is amended to read as follows:
- Sec. 146.006. ELECTION TO AUTHORIZE OPERATING UNDER THIS
- 24 SUBCHAPTER [CHAPTER].
- SECTION 4. Sections 146.006(a) and (e), Local Government
- 26 Code, are amended to read as follows:
- 27 (a) The governing body of a municipality that receives a

- 1 petition for recognition under Section 146.004 may order an
- 2 election to determine whether a public employer may meet and confer
- 3 under this subchapter [chapter].
- 4 (e) If an election authorized under this section is held,
- 5 the municipality may operate under the other provisions of this
- 6 <u>subchapter</u> [chapter] only if a majority of the votes cast at the
- 7 election favor the proposition.
- 8 SECTION 5. Section 146.007(a), Local Government Code, is
- 9 amended to read as follows:
- 10 (a) The municipal employees may modify or change the
- 11 recognition of the employee association granted under this
- 12 subchapter [chapter] by filing with the governing body of the
- 13 municipality a petition signed by a majority of all covered
- 14 employees.
- SECTION 6. Section 146.009(a), Local Government Code, is
- 16 amended to read as follows:
- 17 (a) A public employer in a municipality that chooses to meet
- 18 and confer under this subchapter [chapter] shall recognize an
- 19 association that is recognized under Section 146.004 or 146.005 as
- 20 the sole and exclusive bargaining agent for the covered employees.
- 21 SECTION 7. Section 146.011, Local Government Code, is
- 22 amended to read as follows:
- Sec. 146.011. PROTECTED RIGHTS OF EMPLOYEES. A meet and
- 24 confer agreement ratified under this subchapter [chapter] may not
- 25 interfere with the right of a member of a bargaining unit to pursue
- 26 allegations of discrimination based on race, creed, color, national
- 27 origin, religion, age, sex, or disability with the Texas Workforce

- 1 Commission civil rights division or the federal Equal Employment
- 2 Opportunity Commission or to pursue affirmative action litigation.
- 3 SECTION 8. Section 146.013(a), Local Government Code, is
- 4 amended to read as follows:
- 5 (a) Deliberations relating to a meet and confer agreement or
- 6 proposed agreement under this <u>subchapter</u> [chapter] between
- 7 representatives of the public employer and representatives of the
- 8 employee association recognized under this subchapter [chapter] as
- 9 the sole and exclusive bargaining agent for the covered employees
- 10 must be open to the public and comply with state law.
- 11 SECTION 9. Section 146.014(a), Local Government Code, is
- 12 amended to read as follows:
- 13 (a) An agreement under this subchapter [chapter] is
- 14 enforceable and binding on the public employer, the recognized
- 15 employee association, and the employees covered by the meet and
- 16 confer agreement only if:
- 17 (1) the governing body of the municipality ratified
- 18 the agreement by a majority vote; and
- 19 (2) the recognized employee association ratified the
- 20 agreement by conducting a secret ballot election at which the
- 21 majority of the covered employees who are members of the
- 22 association favored ratifying the agreement.
- SECTION 10. The heading to Section 146.015, Local
- 24 Government Code, is amended to read as follows:
- Sec. 146.015. ACTION OR ELECTION TO REPEAL AUTHORIZATION TO
- 26 OPERATE UNDER THIS SUBCHAPTER [CHAPTER].
- SECTION 11. Sections 146.015(b) and (f), Local Government

- 1 Code, are amended to read as follows:
- 2 (b) The governing body of a municipality that granted
- 3 recognition of an employee association after conducting an election
- 4 under Section 146.006 may order an election to determine whether a
- 5 public employer may continue to meet and confer under this
- 6 <u>subchapter</u> [chapter]. The governing body may not order an election
- 7 under this subsection until the second anniversary of the date of
- 8 the election under Section 146.006.
- 9 (f) If an election ordered under Subsection (b) is held, the
- 10 municipality may continue to operate under this <u>subchapter</u>
- 11 [chapter] only if a majority of the votes cast at the election favor
- 12 the proposition.
- 13 SECTION 12. Section 146.017, Local Government Code, is
- 14 amended to read as follows:
- 15 Sec. 146.017. AGREEMENT SUPERSEDES CONFLICTING PROVISIONS.
- 16 A written meet and confer agreement ratified under this subchapter
- 17 [chapter] preempts, during the term of the agreement and to the
- 18 extent of any conflict, all contrary state statutes, local
- 19 ordinances, executive orders, civil service provisions, or rules
- 20 adopted by this state or a political subdivision or agent of this
- 21 state, including a personnel board, civil service commission, or
- 22 home-rule municipality, other than a statute, ordinance, executive
- 23 order, civil service provision, or rule regarding pensions or
- 24 pension-related matters.
- 25 SECTION 13. Chapter 146, Local Government Code, is amended
- 26 by adding Subchapter B to read as follows:

1 SUBCHAPTER B. MUNICIPALITY WITH POPULATION OF 650,000 OR MORE THAT 2 OPERATES UNDER CITY MANAGER FORM OF GOVERNMENT Sec. 146.101. APPLICABILITY. (a) This subchapter applies 3 only to a municipality with a population of 650,000 or more: 4 5 (1) that operates under a city manager form of 6 government; 7 (2) in which all members of the municipality's 8 governing body are elected at large; and 9 (3) that recognized associations under Subchapter I, Chapter 143, as the exclusive bargaining agents for both 10 firefighters and police officers before September 1, 2005. 11 12 (b) This subchapter does not apply to: (1) firefighters or police officers who are covered by 13 Subchapter I, Chapter 143; 14 15 (2) emergency medical services personnel; or 16 (3) an employee association in which employees 17 described by Subdivisions (1) and (2) participate. (c) A municipality that was subject to this subchapter by 18 19 application of Subsection (a) and that subsequently changes its governing body or form of government continues to be subject to this 20 subchapter, regardless of whether the municipality continues to 21 meet the requirements of Subdivisions (1) and (2) of that 22 23 subsection.

(1) "Appointed employee" means any municipal employee

(2) "Covered employee" means an employee of a

Sec. 146.102. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

appointed by the municipality's governing body.

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1 municipality, other than: 2 (A) an appointed employee; 3 (B) a city manager, an assistant city manager, or 4 a professional executive assistant to a city manager or assistant 5 city manager; 6 (C) an employee who holds an executive-level 7 position; 8 (D) a cadet or trainee enrolled in a training program for police officers, firefighters, or emergency medical 9 10 services personnel; (E) an employee designated under Section 146.110 11 12 as a bargaining agent for the municipality; and (F) an employee <u>designated</u> as exempt from the 13 14 bargaining unit by the mutual agreement of the recognized employee 15 association and the public employer. 16 (3) "Emergency medical services personnel" has the 17 meaning assigned by Section 142.152(2). (4) "Employee association" means an organization in 18 19 which municipal employees participate and that exists for the purpose, wholly or partly, of dealing with one or more employers, 20 whether public or private, concerning grievances, labor disputes, 21 wages, rates of pay, hours of employment, or conditions of work 22 23 affecting public employees and whose members pay dues by means of an 24 automatic payroll deduction. (5) "Public employer" means any municipality or 25 26 agency, board, commission, or political subdivision controlled by a municipality that is required to establish the wages, salaries, 27

- 1 rates of pay, hours, working conditions, and other terms and
- 2 conditions of employment of public employees. The term may
- 3 include, under appropriate circumstances, a mayor, manager,
- 4 administrator of a municipality, municipal governing body,
- 5 director of personnel, personnel board, or one or more other
- 6 officials regardless of the name by which they are designated.
- 7 Sec. 146.103. GENERAL PROVISIONS RELATING TO AGREEMENTS AND
- 8 RECOGNITION. (a) A municipality may not be denied local control
- 9 over wages, salaries, rates of pay, hours of work, other terms and
- 10 conditions of employment, or other state-mandated personnel
- 11 issues. A public employer may enter into a mutual agreement
- 12 governing these issues with an employee association recognized
- 13 under this subchapter as the sole and exclusive bargaining agent
- 14 for all covered employees that does not advocate the illegal right
- 15 to strike by municipal employees. The applicable statutes, local
- 16 ordinances, and civil service rules govern a term or condition of
- 17 employment on which the public employer and the association do not
- 18 agree.
- 19 (b) An agreement under this subchapter must be written.
- 20 (c) This subchapter does not require the public employer and
- 21 the recognized employee association to meet and confer or reach an
- 22 agreement on any issue.
- 23 (d) This subchapter does not authorize an agreement
- 24 regarding pension or pension-related matters governed by statute.
- Sec. 146.104. PETITION FOR RECOGNITION: ELECTION OR ACTION
- 26 BY GOVERNING BODY. (a) Not later than the 30th day after the date
- 27 the governing body of a municipality receives from an employee

- 1 association a petition signed by the majority of all covered
- 2 employees that requests recognition of the association as the sole
- 3 and exclusive bargaining agent for all the covered employees, the
- 4 governing body shall:
- 5 (1) grant recognition of the association as requested
- 6 <u>in the petition and find that a public employer may meet and confer</u>
- 7 under this subchapter without conducting an election by the voters
- 8 in the municipality under Section 146.106;
- 9 (2) defer granting recognition of the association and
- 10 order an election by the voters in the municipality under Section
- 11 146.106 regarding whether a public employer may meet and confer
- 12 under this subchapter; or
- 13 (3) order a certification election under Section
- 14 146.105 to determine whether the association represents a majority
- 15 of the covered employees.
- 16 (b) If the governing body of a municipality orders a
- 17 certification election under Subsection (a)(3) and the association
- 18 named in the petition is certified to represent a majority of the
- 19 covered employees, the governing body shall, not later than the
- 20 30th day after the date results of that election are certified:
- 21 (1) grant recognition of the association as requested
- 22 in the petition for recognition and find that a public employer may
- 23 meet and confer under this subchapter without conducting an
- 24 election by the voters in the municipality under Section 146.106;
- 25 or
- 26 (2) defer granting recognition of the association and
- 27 order an election by the voters in the municipality under Section

- 1 146.106 regarding whether a public employer may meet and confer
- 2 under this subchapter.
- 3 Sec. 146.105. CERTIFICATION ELECTION. (a) Except as
- 4 provided by Subsection (b), a certification election ordered under
- 5 Section 146.104(a)(3) to determine whether an employee association
- 6 represents a majority of the covered employees shall be conducted
- 7 <u>according to procedures agreeable to the parties.</u>
- 8 (b) If the parties are unable to agree on procedures for the
- 9 certification election, either party may request the American
- 10 Arbitration Association to conduct the election and to certify the
- 11 results of the election.
- 12 (c) The results of an election shall be certified if the
- 13 employee association receives a majority of valid votes cast in the
- 14 election.
- 15 (d) The employee association is liable for the expenses of
- 16 the certification election, except that if two or more associations
- 17 seeking recognition as the sole and exclusive bargaining agent
- 18 submit a petition signed by at least 30 percent of the employees
- 19 eligible to sign the petition for recognition, all the associations
- 20 named in any petition shall share equally the costs of the election.
- Sec. 146.106. ELECTION TO AUTHORIZE OPERATING UNDER THIS
- 22 SUBCHAPTER. (a) The governing body of a municipality that receives
- 23 <u>a petition for recognition under Section 146.104 may order an</u>
- 24 election to determine whether a public employer may meet and confer
- 25 under this subchapter.
- 26 (b) An election ordered under this section must be held as
- 27 part of the next regularly scheduled general election for municipal

- 1 officials that is held after the date the governing body of the
- 2 municipality orders the election and that allows sufficient time to
- 3 prepare the ballot in compliance with other requirements of law.
- 4 (c) The ballot for an election ordered under this section
- 5 shall be printed to permit voting for or against the proposition:
- 6 "Authorizing _____ (name of the municipality) to operate under
- 7 the state law allowing a municipality to meet and confer and make
- 8 agreements with the association representing municipal employees
- 9 as provided by state law, preserving the prohibition against
- 10 strikes and organized work stoppages, and providing penalties for
- 11 strikes and organized work stoppages."
- 12 (d) An election called under this section must be held and
- 13 the returns prepared and canvassed in conformity with the Election
- 14 Code.
- (e) If an election authorized under this section is held,
- 16 the municipality may operate under the other provisions of this
- 17 subchapter only if a majority of the votes cast at the election
- 18 favor the proposition.
- 19 (f) If an election authorized under this section is held, an
- 20 association may not submit a petition for recognition to the
- 21 governing body of the municipality under Section 146.104 before the
- 22 <u>second anniversary of the date of the election</u>.
- Sec. 146.107. CHANGE OR MODIFICATION OF RECOGNITION. (a)
- 24 The municipal employees may modify or change the recognition of the
- 25 employee association granted under this subchapter by filing with
- 26 the governing body of the municipality a petition signed by a
- 27 majority of all covered employees.

- 1 (b) The governing body of the municipality may:
- 2 (1) recognize the change or modification as provided
- 3 by the petition; or
- 4 (2) order a certification election in accordance with
- 5 Section 146.105 regarding whether to do so.
- 6 Sec. 146.108. STRIKES PROHIBITED. (a) A municipal
- 7 employee may not engage in a strike or organized work stoppage
- 8 against this state or the municipality.
- 9 (b) A municipal employee who participates in a strike
- 10 forfeits any civil service rights, reemployment rights, and other
- 11 rights, benefits, or privileges the employee may have as a result of
- 12 the employee's employment or prior employment with the
- 13 municipality.
- 14 (c) This section does not affect the right of a person to
- 15 cease work if the person is not acting in concert with others in an
- 16 <u>organized work stoppage.</u>
- 17 Sec. 146.109. RECOGNITION OF EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION. (a) A
- 18 public employer in a municipality that chooses to meet and confer
- 19 under this subchapter shall recognize an employee association that
- 20 is recognized under Section 146.104 or 146.105 as the sole and
- 21 exclusive bargaining agent for the covered employees.
- (b) The public employer shall recognize the employee
- 23 association until recognition of the association is withdrawn, in
- 24 accordance with Section 146.107, by a majority of the municipal
- 25 employees eligible to sign a petition for recognition.
- Sec. 146.110. SELECTION OF BARGAINING AGENT; BARGAINING
- 27 UNIT. (a) The public employer's chief executive officer or the

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- 1 chief executive officer's designee shall select one or more persons
- 2 to represent the public employer as its sole and exclusive
- 3 bargaining agent to meet and confer on issues related to the wages,
- 4 hours of employment, and other terms and conditions of employment
- 5 of municipal employees.
- 6 (b) An employee association may designate one or more
- 7 persons to negotiate or bargain on the association's behalf. An
- 8 employee association may not designate as one of its bargaining
- 9 agents any person employed as an attorney for the public employer.
- 10 (c) A municipality's bargaining unit is composed of all the
- 11 covered employees.
- 12 Sec. 146.111. PROTECTED RIGHTS OF EMPLOYEES. A meet and
- 13 confer agreement ratified under this subchapter may not interfere
- 14 with the right of a member of a bargaining unit to pursue
- 15 <u>allegations of discrimination based on race, creed, color, national</u>
- 16 origin, religion, age, sex, or disability with the Texas Workforce
- 17 Commission civil rights division or the federal Equal Employment
- 18 Opportunity Commission or to pursue affirmative action litigation.
- Sec. 146.112. OPEN RECORDS. (a) A proposed meet and confer
- 20 agreement and a document prepared and used by the municipality,
- 21 including a public employer, in connection with the proposed
- 22 agreement are available to the public under Chapter 552, Government
- 23 Code, only after the agreement is ready to be ratified by the
- 24 governing body of the municipality.
- (b) This section does not affect the application of
- 26 Subchapter C, Chapter 552, Government Code, to a document prepared
- 27 and used in connection with the agreement.

- Sec. 146.113. OPEN DELIBERATIONS. (a) Deliberations
- 2 relating to a meet and confer agreement or proposed agreement under
- 3 this subchapter between representatives of the public employer and
- 4 representatives of the employee association recognized under this
- 5 subchapter as the sole and exclusive bargaining agent for the
- 6 covered employees must be open to the public and comply with state
- 7 <u>law.</u>
- 8 (b) Subsection (a) may not be construed to prohibit the
- 9 representatives of the public employer or the representatives of
- 10 the recognized employee association from conducting private
- 11 caucuses that are not open to the public during meet and confer
- 12 negotiations.
- 13 Sec. 146.114. RATIFICATION AND ENFORCEABILITY OF
- 14 AGREEMENT. (a) An agreement under this subchapter is enforceable
- 15 and binding on the public employer, the recognized employee
- 16 <u>association</u>, and the employees covered by the meet and confer
- 17 agreement only if:
- 18 (1) the governing body of the municipality ratified
- 19 the agreement by a majority vote; and
- 20 (2) the recognized employee association ratified the
- 21 agreement by conducting a secret ballot election at which the
- 22 majority of the covered employees who voted in the election and are
- 23 members of the association favored ratifying the agreement.
- (b) A meet and confer agreement ratified as described by
- 25 Subsection (a) may establish a procedure by which the parties agree
- 26 to resolve disputes related to a right, duty, or obligation
- 27 provided by the agreement, including binding arbitration on a

- 1 question involving interpretation of the agreement.
- 2 (c) A state district court of a judicial district in which
- 3 the municipality is located has jurisdiction to hear and resolve a
- 4 dispute under the ratified meet and confer agreement on the
- 5 application of a party to the agreement aggrieved by an action or
- 6 omission of the other party when the action or omission is related
- 7 to a right, duty, or obligation provided by the agreement. The
- 8 court may issue proper restraining orders, temporary and permanent
- 9 injunctions, or any other writ, order, or process, including
- 10 contempt orders, that are appropriate to enforcing the agreement.
- 11 Sec. 146.115. ACTION OR ELECTION TO REPEAL AUTHORIZATION TO
- 12 OPERATE UNDER THIS SUBCHAPTER. (a) The governing body of a
- 13 municipality that granted recognition of an employee association
- 14 under Section 146.104 without conducting an election under Section
- 15 146.106 may withdraw recognition of the association by providing to
- 16 the association not less than 90 days' written notice that:
- 17 (1) the governing body is withdrawing recognition of
- 18 the association; and
- 19 (2) any agreement between the governing body and the
- 20 association will not be renewed.
- 21 (b) The governing body of a municipality that granted
- 22 recognition of an employee association after conducting an election
- 23 under Section 146.106 may order an election to determine whether a
- 24 public employer may continue to meet and confer under this
- 25 subchapter. The governing body may not order an election under this
- 26 subsection until the second anniversary of the date of the election
- 27 <u>under Section</u> 146.106.

- 1 (c) An election ordered under Subsection (b) must be held as
 2 part of the next regularly scheduled general election for municipal
 3 officers that occurs after the date the governing body of the
 4 municipality orders the election and that allows sufficient time to
 5 prepare the ballot in compliance with other requirements of law.
- 6 (d) The ballot for an election ordered under Subsection (b) 7 shall be printed to permit voting for or against the proposition: 8 "Authorizing (name of the municipality) to continue to operate under the state law allowing a municipality to meet and 9 confer and make agreements with the association representing 10 municipal employees as provided by state law, preserving the 11 12 prohibition against strikes and organized work stoppages, and providing penalties for strikes and organized work stoppages." 13
- 14 <u>(e) An election ordered under Subsection (b) must be held</u>
 15 <u>and the returns prepared and canvassed in conformity with the</u>
 16 Election Code.
- 17 (f) If an election ordered under Subsection (b) is held, the
 18 municipality may continue to operate under this subchapter only if
 19 a majority of the votes cast at the election favor the proposition.
- 20 (g) If an election ordered under Subsection (b) is held, an
 21 association may not submit a petition for recognition to the
 22 governing body of the municipality under Section 146.104 before the
 23 second anniversary of the date of the election.
- Sec. 146.116. ELECTION TO REPEAL AGREEMENT. (a) Not later
 than the 45th day after the date a meet and confer agreement is
 ratified by the governing body of the municipality and the
 recognized employee association, a petition calling for the repeal

- 1 of the agreement signed by at least 10 percent of the qualified
- 2 voters residing in the municipality may be presented to the person
- 3 charged with ordering an election under Section 3.004, Election
- 4 Code.
- 5 (b) If a petition is presented under Subsection (a), the
- 6 governing body of the municipality shall:
- 7 (1) repeal the meet and confer agreement; or
- 8 (2) certify that it is not repealing the agreement and
- 9 call an election to determine whether to repeal the agreement.
- 10 (c) An election called under Subsection (b)(2) may be held
- 11 as part of the next regularly scheduled general election for the
- 12 municipality or at a special election called by the governing body
- 13 for that purpose. The ballot shall be printed to permit voting for
- 14 or against the proposition: "Repeal the meet and confer agreement
- 15 ratified on _____ (date agreement was ratified) by the
- 16 (name of the governing body of the municipality) and the ____ (name
- 17 of the recognized municipal employee association) concerning
- 18 wages, salaries, rates of pay, hours of work, and other terms of
- 19 employment."
- 20 (d) If a majority of the votes cast at the election favor the
- 21 repeal of the agreement, the agreement is void.
- Sec. 146.117. AGREEMENT SUPERSEDES CONFLICTING PROVISIONS.
- 23 A written meet and confer agreement ratified under this subchapter
- 24 preempts, during the term of the agreement and to the extent of any
- 25 <u>conflict</u>, all contrary state statutes, local ordinances, executive
- 26 orders, civil service provisions, or rules adopted by this state or
- 27 a political subdivision or agent of this state, including a

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- 1 personnel board, civil service commission, or home-rule
- 2 municipality, other than a statute, ordinance, executive order,
- 3 civil service provision, or rule regarding pensions or
- 4 pension-related matters.
- 5 Sec. 146.118. ARBITRATION. The governing body of a
- 6 municipality may submit to interest arbitration any issues that
- 7 were the subject of negotiation between the municipality and the
- 8 employee association. An award or decision by an arbitrator is not
- 9 binding on the municipality until it is adopted by the
- 10 municipality's governing body.
- 11 SECTION 14. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.