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## Commerce & Labor Committee

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### SB 5908

**Brief Description:** Providing interest arbitration for employees of juvenile court services administered under RCW 13.20.060.

**Sponsors:** Senators Kohl-Welles, Roach and Keiser.

#### Brief Summary of Bill

- Adds certain juvenile detention employees to the employees covered by binding interest arbitration under the Public Employees' Collective Bargaining Act.

**Hearing Date:** 2/19/10

**Staff:** Jill Reinmuth (786-7134).

#### Background:

The Public Employees' Collective Bargaining Act (PECBA) provides for collective bargaining of wages and working conditions by counties, cities, and other political subdivisions and their employees. For uniformed personnel, the PECBA recognizes the public policy against strikes as a means of settling labor disputes. To resolve impasses over contract negotiations involving uniformed personnel, the PECBA requires binding arbitration.

Uniformed personnel include correctional employees who are employed in jails by counties with a population of 70,000 or more, and who are trained for and charged with responsibility for custody of inmates in the jail. Other employees listed as uniformed personnel include: firefighters in all cities and counties and law enforcement officers in larger cities and counties, general authority peace officers and firefighters employed by certain port districts, security forces at a nuclear power plant, and publicly employed advanced life support technicians.

The Juvenile Justice Act authorizes superior court judges in certain counties with a population of one million or more to transfer responsibility for and administration of juvenile court services to the county executive, subject to approval of the county legislative authority. Pursuant to such a

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transfer, the King County Department of Adult and Juvenile Detention, through the Juvenile Division, operates the juvenile detention facility and administers alternatives to secure detention.

**Summary of Bill:**

The binding interest arbitration provisions of the Public Employees' Collective Bargaining Act are extended to certain juvenile detention employees. These employees must be employed by a juvenile detention division created pursuant to a transfer of juvenile court services by superior court judges in certain counties with a population of one million or more to the county executive. They must be responsible for supervising, controlling, monitoring, programming, classifying, and/or maintaining custody of juveniles in juvenile detention facilities or alternatives to secure detention programs.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Requested on February 18, 2010.

**Effective Date:** The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.