

Contract Article 24.1: Meet and Confer

The parties acknowledge that during the negotiations which resulted in this Contract, each had unlimited right and opportunity to make demands and proposals with respect to any subject or matter not removed by law from the area of collective bargaining, and that the understanding and agreements arrived at by the parties after the exercise of that right and opportunity are set forth in this Contract. Any other prior or existing understanding or agreement by the parties, whether formal or informal, regarding any such matters is hereby superseded. Except as provided in this Contract, it is agreed and understood that each party to this Contract voluntarily waives its right to negotiate with respect to any matter raised in negotiations or covered in this Contract.

With respect to other matters within the scope of negotiations, negotiations may be required as provided in subsection B below.

The parties agree that the provisions of this subsection shall apply only to matters which are not covered in this Contract.

The parties recognize that it may be necessary for the State to make changes in areas within the scope of negotiations. Where the State finds it necessary to make such changes, the State shall notify the Union of the proposed change thirty (30) days prior to its proposed implementation.

The parties shall undertake negotiations regarding the impact of such changes on the employees when all three (3) of the following exists:

1. Where such changes would affect the working conditions of a significant number of employees.
2. Where the subject matter of change is within the scope of representation pursuant to the Dills Act.
3. Where the Union requests to negotiate with the State.

An agreement resulting from such negotiations shall be executed in writing and shall become an addendum to this Contract. If the parties are in disagreement as to whether a proposed change is subject to this subsection, such disagreement may be submitted to the arbitration procedure for resolution.

The arbitrator's decision shall be binding. In the event negotiations on the proposed change are undertaken, any impasse which arises may be submitted to mediation pursuant to section 3518 of the Dills Act.

The DPA will meet with representatives of the Union monthly, upon request, to review the notices to meet and confer under the provision of B above received by the Union to determine if the issues to be discussed can be consolidated to reduce the number of meetings required.