

**State Employees' Association of New Hampshire, SEIU Local 1984 & State of New Hampshire**, Decision No. 2020-242 (Case No. G-0115-10).

Background: The Union filed a petition for a declaratory ruling on the following questions: (1) whether RSA 273-A:9, I allows individual SEA units to bargain unique cost items (not common to all state employees) separately from bargaining by a single bargaining committee representing all the unions; (2) whether individual SEA units that have unique cost item proposals have to go into impasse and fact-finding at the same time as the executive branch union committee or can they negotiate and move into impasse and fact-finding individually; and (3) whether individual SEA units can settle and implement their specific contracts, with cost items, if the SEA and the State are at impasse on the larger executive branch contract.

Decision: Under RSA 273-A:9, I the SEA was entitled to bargain cost items that are unique to individual bargaining units separately from bargaining on common cost items through the single employee bargaining committee. The board's answer to question 1 was Yes. The answer to question 2 was No. The board did not rule on question 3 as it was speculative at that point.

***Disclaimer: This summary is intended to provide a brief description of the issues in this case and the outcome. The summary is not a substitute for the decision, should not be relied upon in place of the decision, and should not be cited as controlling or relevant authority in PELRB proceedings or other proceedings.***