S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

S. 3278 A. 6847

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

S E N A T E - A S S E M B L Y

March 13, 2009

IN SENATE -- Introduced by Sen. LAVALLE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Civil Service and Pensions

IN ASSEMBLY -- Introduced by M. of A. THIELE -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Employees

AN ACT to provide for an increased death benefit for the survivors of a deceased police officer

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. The legislature finds and declares that the late Theodore Raffel served the village of Southampton for nineteen years, three hundred sixty-four days and fifteen and one-half hours as a police officer. At the time of officer Raffel's death, a situation which was not due to negligence on the part of such individual, there had been paid into the New York state and local police and fire retirement system on his behalf contributions in the amount of approximately one hundred seventy thousand dollars. Nevertheless, the amount of the death benefit paid to officer Raffel's widow was less than one-half of that amount.

S 2. Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of law, the New York state and local police and fire retirement system is authorized and directed to pay to the beneficiary of police officer Theodore Raffel, who was employed by the village of Southampton as a police officer from 1966, until his death on June 1, 1986, the sum of all of the contributions paid by the village of Southampton to such system on behalf of such police officer together with compound interest thereon at a rate reflecting the return on investments earned by the funds held by such system during the period when such contributions were held by such system together with interest thereon from the date of death of such officer, less any sums previously paid by such system to such beneficiary.

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.

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S 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

FISCAL NOTE.--This bill would increase the death benefit paid to the beneficiary of deceased police officer Theodore Raffel. The new death benefit amount would be the sum, over all the years of Mr. Raffel's employment with the Village of Southampton, of the products of his annual salaries and the Village's applicable contribution rates, with interest.

If this bill is enacted, the estimated cost of the increase in the death benefit would be approximately $1.36 million. This cost would be shared by the State of New York and all participating employers in the New York State and Local Police and Fire Retirement System.

This estimate, dated March 12, 2009 and intended for use only during the 2009 Legislative Session, is Fiscal Note No. 2009-178, prepared by the Actuary for the New York State and Local Police and Fire Retirement System.