

STATE OF NEW YORK

9071

IN ASSEMBLY

January 15, 2020

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

AN ACT to amend the retirement and social security law, in relation to the retirement of members who serve as police medics, police medic supervisors and members who perform police medic related services in the Nassau county police department

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. The section heading and subdivisions a and d of section 89-s of the retirement and social security law, as amended by chapter 578 of the laws of 1998, are amended to read as follows:

Retirement of members who serve as ambulance medical technicians, ambulance medical technician/supervisors ~~[and]~~, members who perform ambulance medical technician related services, police medics, police medic supervisors and members who perform police medic related services in the Nassau county police department.

a. Any member who serves as an ambulance medical technician, ambulance medical technician/supervisor or a member who performs ambulance medical technician related services, or a police medic, police medic supervisor or a member who performs police medic related services and is employed in the Nassau county police department shall be eligible to retire pursuant to the provisions of this section. Such eligibility shall be an alternative to the eligibility provisions available under any other plan of this article to which such member is subject.

d. As used in this section "creditable service" shall include any and all services performed as an ambulance medical technician, ambulance medical technician/supervisor or member who performs ambulance medical technician related services, or a police medic, police medic supervisor or a member who performs police medic related services in the Nassau county police department.

§ 2. Subdivision a of section 445 of the retirement and social security law, as amended by chapter 476 of the laws of 2018, is amended to read as follows:

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

LBD14191-02-0

1 a. No member of a retirement system who is subject to the provisions
2 of this article shall retire without regard to age, exclusive of retire-
3 ment for disability, unless he or she is a police officer, an investi-
4 gator member of the New York city employees' retirement system, fire-
5 fighter, correction officer, a qualifying member as defined in section
6 eighty-nine-t, as added by chapter six hundred fifty-seven of the laws
7 of nineteen hundred ninety-eight, of this chapter, sanitation worker, a
8 special officer (including persons employed by the city of New York in
9 the title urban park ranger or associate urban park ranger), school
10 safety agent, campus peace officer or a taxi and limousine commission
11 inspector member of the New York city employees' retirement system or
12 the New York city board of education retirement system, a dispatcher
13 member of the New York city employees' retirement system, a police
14 communications member of the New York city employees' retirement system,
15 an EMT member of the New York city employees' retirement system, a depu-
16 ty sheriff member of the New York city employees' retirement system, a
17 correction officer of the Westchester county correction department as
18 defined in section eighty-nine-e of this chapter or employed in Suffolk
19 county as a peace officer, as defined in section eighty-nine-s, as added
20 by chapter five hundred eighty-eight of the laws of nineteen hundred
21 ninety-seven, of this chapter, employed in Suffolk county as a
22 correction officer, as defined in section eighty-nine-f of this chapter,
23 or employed in Nassau county as a correction officer, uniformed
24 correction division personnel, sheriff, undersheriff or deputy sheriff,
25 as defined in section eighty-nine-g of this chapter, or employed in
26 Nassau county as an ambulance medical technician, an ambulance medical
27 technician/supervisor or a member who performs ambulance medical techni-
28 cian related services, or a police medic, police medic supervisor or a
29 member who performs police medic related services, as defined in section
30 eighty-nine-s, as amended by chapter five hundred seventy-eight of the
31 laws of nineteen hundred ninety-eight, of this chapter, or employed in
32 Nassau county as a peace officer, as defined in section eighty-nine-s,
33 as added by chapter five hundred ninety-five of the laws of nineteen
34 hundred ninety-seven, of this chapter, or employed in Albany county as a
35 sheriff, undersheriff, deputy sheriff, correction officer or identifica-
36 tion officer, as defined in section eighty-nine-h of this chapter or is
37 employed in St. Lawrence county as a sheriff, undersheriff, deputy sher-
38 iff or correction officer, as defined in section eighty-nine-i of this
39 chapter or is employed in Orleans county as a sheriff, undersheriff,
40 deputy sheriff or correction officer, as defined in section
41 eighty-nine-l of this chapter or is employed in Jefferson county as a
42 sheriff, undersheriff, deputy sheriff or correction officer, as defined
43 in section eighty-nine-j of this chapter or is employed in Onondaga
44 county as a deputy sheriff-jail division competitively appointed or as a
45 correction officer, as defined in section eighty-nine-k of this chapter
46 or is employed in a county which makes an election under subdivision j
47 of section eighty-nine-p of this chapter as a sheriff, undersheriff,
48 deputy sheriff or correction officer as defined in such section eighty-
49 nine-p or is employed in Broome County as a sheriff, undersheriff, depu-
50 ty sheriff or correction officer, as defined in section eighty-nine-m of
51 this chapter or is a Monroe county deputy sheriff-court security, or
52 deputy sheriff-jailor as defined in section eighty-nine-n, as added by
53 chapter five hundred ninety-seven of the laws of nineteen hundred nine-
54 ty-one, of this chapter or is employed in Greene county as a sheriff,
55 undersheriff, deputy sheriff or correction officer, as defined in
56 section eighty-nine-o of this chapter or is a traffic officer with the

town of Elmira as defined in section eighty-nine-q of this chapter or is employed by Suffolk county as a park police officer, as defined in section eighty-nine-r of this chapter or is a peace officer employed by a county probation department as defined in section eighty-nine-t, as added by chapter six hundred three of the laws of nineteen hundred ninety-eight, of this chapter or is employed in Rockland county as a deputy sheriff-civil as defined in section eighty-nine-v of this chapter as added by chapter four hundred forty-one of the laws of two thousand one, or is employed in Rockland county as a superior correction officer as defined in section eighty-nine-v of this chapter as added by chapter five hundred fifty-six of the laws of two thousand one or is a paramedic employed by the police department in the town of Tonawanda and retires under the provisions of section eighty-nine-v of this chapter, as added by chapter four hundred seventy-two of the laws of two thousand one, or is a county fire marshal, supervising fire marshal, fire marshal, assistant fire marshal, assistant chief fire marshal or chief fire marshal employed by the county of Nassau as defined in section eighty-nine-w of this chapter and is in a plan which permits immediate retirement upon completion of a specified period of service without regard to age. Except as provided in subdivision c of section four hundred forty-five-a of this article, subdivision c of section four hundred forty-five-b of this article, subdivision c of section four hundred forty-five-c of this article, subdivision c of section four hundred forty-five-d of this article, subdivision c of section four hundred forty-five-e of this article, subdivision c of section four hundred forty-five-f of this article and subdivision c of section four hundred forty-five-h of this article, a member in such a plan and such an occupation, other than a police officer or investigator member of the New York city employees' retirement system or a firefighter, shall not be permitted to retire prior to the completion of twenty-five years of credited service; provided, however, if such a member in such an occupation is in a plan which permits retirement upon completion of twenty years of service regardless of age, he or she may retire upon completion of twenty years of credited service and prior to the completion of twenty-five years of service, but in such event the benefit provided from funds other than those based on such a member's own contributions shall not exceed two per centum of final average salary per each year of credited service.

§ 3. Subdivision o of section 603 of the retirement and social security law, as amended by chapter 578 of the laws of 1998, is amended to read as follows:

o. The service retirement benefit specified in section six hundred four of this article shall be payable to members with twenty-five or more years of creditable service, without regard to age, who are employed as ambulance medical technicians, ambulance medical technician/supervisors or a member who performs ambulance medical technician related services, or a police medic, police medic supervisor or a member who performs police medic related services within the Nassau county police department, as defined in section eighty-nine-s of this chapter if: (i) such members have met the minimum service requirements upon retirement, and (ii) in the case of a member subject to the provisions of article fourteen of this chapter, such member files an election therefor which provides that he or she will be subject to the provisions of this article and to none of the provisions of such article fourteen. Such election, which shall be irrevocable, shall be in writing, duly executed and shall be filed with the comptroller on or before

1 January first, two thousand. For the purposes of this subdivision, the
2 term "creditable service" shall have the meaning as so defined in both
3 sections eighty-nine-s and six hundred one of this chapter.

4 § 4. Subdivision p of section 604 of the retirement and social securi-
5 ty law, as amended by chapter 578 of the laws of 1998, is amended to
6 read as follows:

7 p. The early service retirement for a member who is employed as an
8 ambulance medical technician, ambulance medical technician/supervisor or
9 a member who performs ambulance medical technician related services, or
10 a police medic, police medic supervisor or a member who performs police
11 medic related services as defined in section eighty-nine-s of this chap-
12 ter, shall be a pension equal to one-fiftieth of final average salary
13 times years of credited service at the completion of twenty-five years
14 of service, but not exceeding one-half of his or her final average sala-
15 ry; for service beyond twenty-five years the benefits shall increase by
16 one-sixtieth of final average salary for each year of additional service
17 credit provided, however, that the total allowance payable pursuant to
18 this section shall not exceed three-fourths of such member's final aver-
19 age salary.

20 § 5. The section heading, the opening paragraph of subdivision a and
21 subdivision g of section 605-e of the retirement and social security
22 law, as added by chapter 522 of the laws of 2014, are amended to read as
23 follows:

24 Accidental disability retirement for ambulance medical technician
25 supervisors, ambulance medical technician coordinators [~~and~~], ambulance
26 medical technicians, police medic supervisors, police medic coordina-
27 tors, and police medics in Nassau county.

28 A member employed as [~~a~~] an ambulance medical technician supervisor,
29 ambulance medical technician coordinator [~~and~~], ambulance medical tech-
30 nician, police medic supervisor, police medic coordinator, or police
31 medic in Nassau county shall be entitled to an accidental disability
32 retirement allowance if, at the time application therefor is filed, such
33 member is:

34 g. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this section shall
35 apply to ambulance medical technician supervisors, ambulance medical
36 technician coordinators [~~and~~], ambulance medical technicians, police
37 medic supervisors, police medic coordinators, and police medics in
38 Nassau county who were hired on or after July twenty-seventh, nineteen
39 hundred seventy-six.

40 § 6. This act shall take effect immediately.

FISCAL NOTE.--Pursuant to Legislative Law, Section 50:

This bill will add police medic titles and members who perform police
medic related services in Nassau County to the ambulance medical techni-
cian titles eligible for certain retirement benefits.

If this bill is enacted during the 2020 legislative session, there
will not be a past service cost as these members were previously in the
ambulance medical technician titles and covered by the same sections of
law.

There will be no increase in the annual contributions of Nassau Coun-
ty.

Summary of relevant resources:

The membership data used in measuring the impact of the proposed
change was the same as that used in the March 31, 2019 actuarial valu-
ation. Distributions and other statistics can be found in the 2019
Report of the Actuary and the 2019 Comprehensive Annual Financial
Report.

The actuarial assumptions and methods used are described in the 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019 Annual Report to the Comptroller on Actuarial Assumptions, and the Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York: Audit and Control.

The Market Assets and GASB Disclosures are found in the March 31, 2019 New York State and Local Retirement System Financial Statements and Supplementary Information.

I am a member of the American Academy of Actuaries and meet the Qualification Standards to render the actuarial opinion contained herein.

This fiscal note does not constitute a legal opinion on the viability of the proposed change nor is it intended to serve as a substitute for the professional judgment of an attorney.

This estimate, dated December 6, 2019, and intended for use only during the 2020 Legislative Session, is Fiscal Note No. 2020-16, prepared by the Actuary for the New York State and Local Retirement System.