

# STATE OF NEW YORK

10411

## IN ASSEMBLY

May 13, 2022

Introduced by COMMITTEE ON RULES -- (at request of M. of A. J. A. Giglio) -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Employees

AN ACT to authorize the county of Suffolk and the village of Nissequogue to offer an optional twenty-year retirement plan to police officer Bridget Topping

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

1 Section 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary,  
2 the county of Suffolk and the village of Nissequogue, in the county of  
3 Suffolk, participating employers in the New York state and local police  
4 and fire retirement system, which previously elected to offer the  
5 optional twenty-year retirement plan, established pursuant to section  
6 384-d of the retirement and social security law, to police officers  
7 employed by such county and village, are hereby authorized to make  
8 participation in such plan available to Bridget Topping, a police offi-  
9 cer employed full-time by the county of Suffolk and part-time by the  
10 village of Nissequogue, who, for reasons not ascribable to her own  
11 negligence, failed to make a timely application to participate in such  
12 optional twenty-year retirement plan. The county of Suffolk and the  
13 village of Nissequogue may so elect by separately filing with the state  
14 comptroller, within nine months of the effective date of this act,  
15 resolutions of its own county legislature and the village board of trus-  
16 tees together with certification that such police officer did not bar  
17 herself from participation in such retirement plan as a result of her  
18 own negligence. Thereafter, such police officer may elect to be covered  
19 by the provisions of section 384-d of the retirement and social security  
20 law and shall be entitled to the full rights and benefits associated  
21 with coverage under such section as well as section 384-e of such law,  
22 by filing a request to that effect with the state comptroller within one  
23 year of the effective date of this act.

24 § 2. All employer past service costs associated with implementing the  
25 provisions of this act shall be borne by the county of Suffolk and may  
26 be amortized over a ten-year period.

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

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1 § 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

This bill would allow the County of Suffolk and the Village of Nissequogue to reopen the provisions of Section 384-d, together with Section 384-e, of the Retirement and Social Security Law for police officer Bridget Topping.

If this bill is enacted during the 2022 legislative session, we anticipate that there will be an increase of approximately \$9,200 in the annual contributions of the County of Suffolk and \$2,100 in the annual contributions of the Village of Nissequogue for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2023. In future years, this cost will vary as the billing rates and salary of Bridget Topping change.

In addition to the annual contributions discussed above, there will be an immediate past service cost of approximately \$398,000 which will be borne by the County of Suffolk as a one-time payment. This estimate is based on the assumption that payment will be made on February 1, 2023. If the County of Suffolk elects to amortize this cost over a 10-year period, the cost for the first year including interest would be \$50,800.

Summary of relevant resources:

Membership data as of March 31, 2021 was used in measuring the impact of the proposed change, the same data used in the April 1, 2021 actuarial valuation. Distributions and other statistics can be found in the 2021 Report of the Actuary and the 2021 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

The actuarial assumptions and methods used are described in the 2020 and 2021 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, 2021 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 May 12, 2022, and intended for use only during the 2022 Legislative Session, is Fiscal Note No. 2022-142, prepared by the Actuary for the New York State and Local Retirement System.