

STATE OF NEW YORK

5929--A

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

March 24, 2023

Introduced by M. of A. PHEFFER AMATO -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Employees -- recommitted to the Committee on Governmental Employees in accordance with Assembly Rule 3, sec. 2 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the retirement and social security law, in relation to service retirement benefits for uniformed correction members of the New York city employees' retirement system

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

1 Section 1. Section 505 of the retirement and social security law, as
2 amended by chapter 18 of the laws of 2012, is amended to read as
3 follows:

4 § 505. Service retirement benefits; police/fire members, New York city
5 uniformed correction/sanitation revised plan members and investigator
6 revised plan members. a. The normal service retirement benefit for
7 police/fire members, New York city uniformed correction/sanitation
8 revised plan members and investigator revised plan members at normal
9 retirement age shall be a pension equal to fifty percent of final aver-
10 age salary, less fifty percent of the primary social security retirement
11 benefit commencing at age sixty-two, as provided in section five hundred
12 eleven of this article, except that for New York city uniformed
13 correction revised plan members of the New York city employees' retire-
14 ment system, the normal service retirement benefit shall not be reduced
15 by the primary social security retirement benefit commencing at age
16 sixty-two as provided in section five hundred eleven of this article.

17 b. The early service retirement benefit for police/fire members, New
18 York city uniformed correction/sanitation revised plan members and
19 investigator revised plan members shall be a pension equal to two and
20 one-tenths percent of final average salary times years of credited
21 service at the completion of twenty years of service or upon attainment

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

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1 of age sixty-two, increased by one-third of one percent of final average
2 salary for each month of service in excess of twenty years, but not in
3 excess of fifty percent of final average salary, less fifty percent of
4 the primary social security retirement benefit commencing at age sixty-
5 two as provided in section five hundred eleven of this article,
6 provided, however, that New York city police/fire revised plan members,
7 New York city uniformed correction/sanitation revised plan members and
8 investigator revised plan members shall not be eligible to retire for
9 service prior to the attainment of twenty years of credited service, and
10 provided further that for New York city uniformed correction revised
11 plan members of the New York city employees' retirement system, the
12 early service retirement benefit shall not be reduced by the primary
13 social security retirement benefit commencing at age sixty-two as
14 provided in section five hundred eleven of this article.

15 c. A police/fire member, a New York city uniformed
16 correction/sanitation revised plan member or an investigator revised
17 plan member who retires with twenty-two years of credited service or
18 less may become eligible for annual escalation of the service retirement
19 benefit if he elects to have the payment of his benefit commence on the
20 date he would have completed twenty-two years and one month or more of
21 service. In such event, the service retirement benefit shall equal two
22 percent of final average salary for each year of credited service, less
23 fifty percent of the primary social security retirement benefit commenc-
24 ing at age sixty-two as provided in section five hundred eleven of this
25 article, except that for New York city uniformed correction revised plan
26 members of the New York city employees' retirement system, the service
27 retirement benefit shall not be reduced by the primary social security
28 retirement benefit commencing at age sixty-two as provided in section
29 five hundred eleven of this article.

30 § 2. Section 511 of the retirement and social security law is amended
31 by adding a new subdivision h to read as follows:

32 h. This section shall not apply to New York city uniformed correction
33 revised plan members of the New York city employees' retirement system
34 who receive a service retirement benefit pursuant to section five
35 hundred five of this article or a deferred vested benefit pursuant to
36 section five hundred sixteen of this article.

37 § 3. Subdivision c of section 516 of the retirement and social securi-
38 ty law, as amended by chapter 18 of the laws of 2012, is amended to read
39 as follows:

40 c. The deferred vested benefit of police/fire members, New York city
41 police/fire revised plan members, New York city uniformed
42 correction/sanitation revised plan members or investigator revised plan
43 members shall be a pension commencing at early retirement age equal to
44 two and one-tenths percent of final average salary times years of cred-
45 ited service, less fifty percent of the primary social security retire-
46 ment benefit commencing at age sixty-two, as provided in section five
47 hundred eleven of this article, except that for New York city uniformed
48 correction revised plan members of the New York city employees' retire-
49 ment system, the service retirement benefit shall not be reduced by the
50 primary social security retirement benefit commencing at age sixty-two
51 as provided in section five hundred eleven of this article. A
52 police/fire member, a New York city police/fire revised plan member, a
53 New York city uniformed correction/sanitation revised plan member or
54 investigator revised plan member may elect to receive his vested benefit
55 commencing at early retirement age or age fifty-five. If the vested
56 benefit commences before early retirement age, the benefit shall be

reduced by one-fifteenth for each year, if any, that the member's early retirement age is in excess of age sixty, and by one-thirtieth for each additional year by which the vested benefit commences prior to early retirement age. If such vested benefit is deferred until after such member's normal retirement age, the benefit shall be computed and subject to annual escalation in the same manner as provided for an early retirement benefit pursuant to subdivision c of section five hundred five of this article.

§ 4. This act shall take effect on the sixtieth day after it shall have become a law.

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

SUMMARY: This proposed legislation would amend Sections of the Retirement and Social Security Law (RSSL) to eliminate the offset equal to 50% of the primary social security benefit in the service, early service, and vested retirement benefits for certain Tier 3 Correction members of NYCERS.

EXPECTED INCREASE (DECREASE) IN EMPLOYER CONTRIBUTIONS
by Fiscal Year for the first 25 years (\$ in Millions)

Year	NYCERS
2025	15.2
2026	16.1
2027	17.4
2028	18.9
2029	20.4
2030	22.1
2031	23.7
2032	25.0
2033	26.3
2034	27.7
2035	29.0
2036	30.2
2037	31.4
2038	32.6
2039	26.4
2040	27.5
2041	28.6
2042	29.7
2043	30.8
2044	32.0
2045	33.2
2046	34.3
2047	35.4
2048	36.6
2049	37.8

Employer Contribution impact beyond Fiscal Year 2049 is not shown.
Projected contributions include future new hires that may be impacted.

The entire increase in employer contributions will be allocated to New York City.

EXPECTED INCREASE (DECREASE) IN ACTUARIAL LIABILITIES
as of June 30, 2023 (\$ in Millions)

Present Value (PV)	NYCERS
PV of Benefits:	152.3
PV of Employee Contributions:	0.0

PV of Employer Contributions:	152.3
Unfunded Accrued Liabilities:	63.2

AMORTIZATION OF UNFUNDED ACCRUED LIABILITY	
	NYCERS
Number of Payments:	14
Fiscal Year of Last Payment:	2038
Amortization Payment:	7.5 M

Unfunded Accrued Liability increases were amortized over the expected remaining working lifetime of those impacted by the benefit changes using level dollar payments.

CENSUS DATA: The estimates presented herein are based on preliminary census data collected as of June 30, 2023. The census data for the impacted population is summarized below.

	NYCERS
Active Members	
- Number Count:	2,788
- Average Age:	39.2
- Average Service:	7.8
- Average Salary:	117,500
Term. Vested Members	
- Number Count:	522
- Average Age:	38.3

IMPACT ON MEMBER BENEFITS: Currently, Tier 3 normal service retirement, early service retirement, and vested retirement benefits for Corrections members in 22-Year Plans are subject to an offset equal to 50% of the primary social security benefit as defined in RSSL Section 511 beginning at age 62.

Under the proposed legislation, the offset for such benefits would be eliminated resulting in an increase in benefits.

ASSUMPTIONS AND METHODS: The estimates presented herein have been calculated based on the Revised 2021 Actuarial Assumptions and Methods of the impacted retirement systems. In addition:

* New entrants were assumed to replace exiting members so that total payroll increases by 3% each year for impacted groups. New entrant demographics were developed based on data for recent new hires and actuarial judgement.

RISK AND UNCERTAINTY: The costs presented in this Fiscal Note depend highly on the actuarial assumptions, methods, and models used, demographics of the impacted population and other factors such as investment, contribution, and other risks. If actual experience deviates from actuarial assumptions, the actual costs could differ from those presented herein. Quantifying these risks is beyond the scope of this Fiscal Note.

This Fiscal Note is intended to measure pension-related impacts and does not include other potential costs (e.g., administrative and Other Postemployment Benefits).

This Fiscal Note does not include cost analyses relating to provisions contained in RSSL Section 500(c).

STATEMENT OF ACTUARIAL OPINION: Marek Tyszkiewicz and Gregory Zelikovsky are members of the Society of Actuaries and the American Academy of Actuaries. We are members of NYCERS but do not believe it impairs our objectivity and we meet the Qualification Standards of the American

Academy of Actuaries to render the actuarial opinion contained herein. To the best of our knowledge, the results contained herein have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted actuarial principles and procedures and with the Actuarial Standards of Practice issued by the Actuarial Standards Board.

FISCAL NOTE IDENTIFICATION: This Fiscal Note 2024-07 dated January 22, 2024 was prepared by the Chief Actuary for the New York City Retirement Systems and Pension Funds. This estimate is intended for use only during the 2024 Legislative Session.