STATE OF NEW YORK

2519

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 23, 2023

Introduced by Sens. GALLIVAN, KENNEDY, ORTT, WEIK -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Civil Service and Pensions

AN ACT to deem an application filed with the New York state and local police and fire retirement system by the widow of Lawrence Lakeman as timely filed

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

Section 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law, rule or regulation to the contrary, an application for conversion of service or disability retirement to accidental death benefits for victims of the 2001 World Trade Center disaster filed by Audra Lakeman with the New York state and local police and fire retirement system, on behalf of her deceased husband Lawrence Lakeman who was previously employed by the New York State Police as a trooper and who was granted a disability retirement benefit on April 24, 2007 which pursuant to section 361 of the retirement and social security law had to be filed with such retirement system by August 24, 2009 but was filed on December 16, 2016 shall be considered timely filed.

§ 2. All costs of implementing the provisions of this act shall be borne by the state of New York.

§ 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

This bill would deem the Application for Conversion of Service or Disability Retirement to Accidental Death Benefit for Victims of the 2001 World Trade Center Disaster originally filed by Audra Lakeman, the beneficiary of deceased police officer Lawrence Lakeman's performance of duty disability benefit, on December 16, 2016 to be timely filed. Lawrence Lakeman died on August 24, 2007. Such application for conversion is required to be filed within two years of a retiree's date of

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

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death as provided in Section 361 of the Retirement and Social Security Law.

If this bill is enacted during the 2023 legislative session, there will be an immediate past service cost of approximately $4.87 million which will be borne by the State of New York as a one-time payment. This estimate assumes that payment will be made on March 1, 2024.

Summary of relevant resources:

Membership data as of March 31, 2022 was used in measuring the impact of the proposed change, the same data used in the April 1, 2022 actuarial valuation. Distributions and other statistics can be found in the 2022 Report of the Actuary and the 2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.

The actuarial assumptions and methods used are described in the 2020, 2021, and 2022 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, 2022 New York State and Local Retirement System Financial Statements and Supplementary Information.

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 January 13, 2023, and intended for use only during the 2023 Legislative Session, is Fiscal Note No. 2023-8, prepared by the Actuary for the New York State and Local Retirement System.