STATE OF NEW YORK

9566

IN SENATE

March 25, 2026

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

AN ACT to amend the retirement and social security law, in relation to disability benefits for certain individuals employed by 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 retirement and social security law is amended by adding a new section 63-j to read as follows:

§ 63-j. Certain impairment of health; presumption. Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter or any general or special law to the contrary, any condition of impairment of health caused by diseases of the heart, resulting in the disability or death to a member who serves as an ambulance medical technician, ambulance medical coordinator, ambulance medical technician/supervisor or a member who performs ambulance medical technician related services, or a police medic, police medic coordinator, police medic supervisor, bureau director police emergency ambulance services - county, assistant bureau director police emergency ambulance services - county, or a member who performs police medic or police emergency ambulance related services and is employed in the Nassau county police department, presently employed and who shall have sustained such disability while so employed, who successfully passed a physical examination on entry into service as a member covered by this section, which examination failed to disclose evidence of any disease or other impairment of the heart, shall be presumptive evidence that it was incurred in the performance and discharge of duty, unless the contrary can be proved by competent evidence.

§ 2. The retirement and social security law is amended by adding a new section 607-m to read as follows:

§ 607-m. Certain impairment of health; presumption. Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter or any general or special law to the contrary, any condition of impairment of health caused by diseases of the heart, resulting in the disability or death to a member who serves as an ambulance medical technician, ambulance medical coordinator, ambu-

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

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lance medical technician/supervisor or a member who performs ambulance medical technician related services, or a police medic, police medic coordinator, police medic supervisor, bureau director police emergency ambulance services - county, assistant bureau director police emergency ambulance services - county, or a member who performs police medic or police emergency ambulance related services and is employed in the Nassau county police department, presently employed and who shall have sustained such disability while so employed, who successfully passed a physical examination on entry into service as a member covered by this section, which examination failed to disclose evidence of any disease or other impairment of the heart, shall be presumptive evidence that it was incurred in the performance and discharge of duty, unless the contrary can be proved by competent evidence.

§ 3. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, none of the provisions of this act shall be subject to the appropriation requirement of section 25 of the retirement and social security law.

§ 4. All costs associated with implementing the provisions of this act shall be borne by Nassau county.

§ 5. This act shall take effect immediately.

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

This bill would provide a performance of duty (POD) disability presumption to certain members employed by the Nassau county police department who perform police medic or police emergency ambulance related services, are impaired due to a condition of the heart, and could receive POD disability provided under Section 607-j of the retirement and social security law.

This proposal would likely lead to an increased number of POD disability benefits for future retirees.

We estimate that the annual contributions of Nassau county will not materially increase because of this proposal.

There will be an immediate past service cost of $211,000 which will be borne by Nassau county as a one-time payment. This estimate assumes that payment will be made on February 1, 2027.

Further, there would likely be some administrative costs to implement the provisions of this legislation.

These estimated costs are based on 126 affected members employed by Nassau county, with annual salary of approximately $21 million as of March 31, 2025.

Summary of relevant resources:

Membership data as of March 31, 2025 was used to measure the impact of the bill, the same data used in the Actuarial Valuations dated April 1, 2025. Distributions and other statistics can be found in the 2025 Report of the Actuary and the 2025 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report. The actuarial assumptions and methods used are described in the 2025 Annual Report to the Comptroller on Actuarial Assumptions, and the Codes, Rules and Regulations of the State of New York: Audit and Control. The fair value of assets and GASB disclosures can be found in the 2025 Financial Statements and Supplementary Information.

Assumptions, demographics, and other considerations may have been modified to better reflect specific provisions of any proposed benefit change(s).

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

This estimate, dated March 24, 2026, and intended for use only during the 2026 Legislative Session, is Fiscal Note Number 2026-50. As Chief

Actuary of the New York State and Local Retirement System (NYSLRS), I, Aaron Schottin Young, hereby certify that this analysis complies with applicable Actuarial Standards of Practice as well as the Code of Professional Conduct and Qualification Standards for Actuaries Issuing Statements of Actuarial Opinion of the American Academy of Actuaries, of which I am a member. I am a member of NYSLRS but do not believe it impairs my objectivity.