

[First Reprint]

**ASSEMBLY, No. 5296**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**222nd LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED JUNE 23, 2026

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman ANTHONY ANGELOZZI**

**District 8 (Atlantic and Burlington)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Provides law enforcement officer benefits to certain public employees enrolled in PERS.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As reported by the Assembly State and Local Government Committee on October 15, 2026, with amendments.



1 AN ACT concerning <sup>1</sup>**[age restrictions and]**<sup>1</sup> retirement benefits for  
 2 certain public employees <sup>1</sup>**[and]** <sup>1</sup>amending <sup>1</sup>P.L.1955, c.257,<sup>1</sup>  
 3 and supplementing <sup>1</sup>**[various parts of the statutory law]**  
 4 P.L.1954, c.84 (C.43:15A-7 et seq.)<sup>1</sup>.

5  
 6 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*  
 7 *of New Jersey:*

8  
 9 1. (New section) Notwithstanding any law, rule, or regulation to  
 10 the contrary, any person employed on the effective date of  
 11 P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill) by the  
 12 State, a county, fire district, school district, or a municipality, or  
 13 agency thereof, who holds a position as a “law enforcement officer”  
 14 as defined by section 1 of P.L.1955, c. 257 (C.43:15A-97) and who  
 15 was enrolled in the Public Employees’ Retirement System prior to  
 16 the effective date of P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as  
 17 this bill) shall be enrolled as a participant in the law enforcement  
 18 officer category of the system within 90 days of that effective date,  
 19 unless the member signs a waiver of participation. The Division of  
 20 Pensions and Benefits in the Department of the Treasury shall  
 21 provide notice to all individuals eligible to be enrolled in the law  
 22 enforcement officer category of the system within 30 days  
 23 following the effective date of P.L. , c. (pending before the  
 24 Legislature as this bill) along with instructions on how a member  
 25 may waive participation in the law enforcement officer category of  
 26 the system. The member shall have 60 days to sign and return the  
 27 provided waiver of participation form. A member who signs the  
 28 waiver shall remain enrolled as a non-law enforcement officer in  
 29 the Public Employees’ Retirement System and the member shall not  
 30 be subject to compulsory retirement as provided in section 3 of  
 31 P.L.1955, c.257 (C.43:15A-99).

32 Any member who is enrolled as a participant of the law  
 33 enforcement officer category of the system in accordance with this  
 34 section shall be eligible for all the benefits and shall be subject to  
 35 all the requirements set forth in P.L.1955, c.257 (C.43:15A-97 et  
 36 seq.) from the date the member is made a participant. All service  
 37 credit earned by the member in a position eligible for participation  
 38 in the category shall be considered service credit as a law  
 39 enforcement officer in that category when the member is enrolled as  
 40 a participant of the law enforcement officer category.

41 In the event that the actuary of the Public Employee’s Retirement  
 42 System determines that a liability has been incurred by the  
 43 provisions of P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this  
 44 bill), the employee shall be responsible for the amount equal to the

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>1</sup>Assembly ASL committee amendments adopted October 15, 2026.

1 difference between the value of their prior service and their transfer  
2 to the law enforcement section of the system. The payment may be  
3 made in a lump sum or in regular monthly installments equal to at  
4 least fifty percent of the employee's normal contribution to the  
5 retirement system over a period not to exceed 10 years, as the  
6 employee may elect, pursuant to rules and regulations as may be  
7 promulgated by the board of trustees.

8  
9 <sup>1</sup>**[2.** (New section) Notwithstanding any other law, rule, or  
10 regulation to the contrary, on or after the effective date of  
11 P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill), no  
12 person who is over the age of 35 years shall be appointed by a  
13 county or the State to a position that is eligible for enrollment in the  
14 Police and Firemen's Retirement System, established pursuant to  
15 P.L.1944, c.255 (C.43:16A-2 et seq.).

16 Wherein Title 11A (Civil Service) of the New Jersey Statutes is  
17 operative, any person who shall have met the age requirement  
18 herein at the announced closing date of a civil service examination  
19 for the position shall be considered within the age requirement  
20 while the civil service list promulgated as a result of that  
21 examination is in effect.

22 Nothing herein contained shall affect the employment or  
23 continuance in office of any person employed prior to the effective  
24 date of P.L. , c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill).<sup>1</sup>

25  
26 <sup>1</sup>**[3.]** 2.<sup>1</sup> Section 1 of P.L.1955, c.257 (C.43:15A-97) is  
27 amended to read as follows:

28 1. "Law enforcement officer" shall mean any permanent and  
29 full-time employee of the State of New Jersey holding one of the  
30 following titles: motor vehicles officer, motor vehicles sergeant,  
31 motor vehicles lieutenant, motor vehicles captain, assistant chief,  
32 bureau of enforcement, and chief, bureau of enforcement in the  
33 Division of Motor Vehicles, and highway patrol officer, sergeant  
34 highway patrol bureau, lieutenant highway patrol bureau, captain  
35 highway patrol bureau, assistant chief highway patrol bureau, chief  
36 highway patrol bureau in the Division of State Police, and  
37 inspector, investigator, and administrative inspector in the Division  
38 of Alcoholic Beverage Control, and inspector recruit alcoholic  
39 beverage control, inspector alcoholic beverage control, senior  
40 inspector alcoholic beverage control, principal inspector alcoholic  
41 beverage control, supervising inspector alcoholic beverage control  
42 in the Division of State Police, and conservation police officer,  
43 assistant district conservation police officer and district  
44 conservation police officer in the Division of Fish and Wildlife in  
45 the Department of Environmental Protection, and assistant chief  
46 marine police and senior marine patrolman in the Division of  
47 Resource Development, and marine police officer, senior marine  
48 police officer, principal marine police officer in the Division of  
49 State Police, and inspector, officer, senior inspector, and principal

1 inspector in the Division of Shell Fisheries, any permanent and full-  
2 time active county detective, sergeant of county detectives,  
3 lieutenant of county detectives, captain of county detectives, chief  
4 of county detectives, and county investigator in the offices of the  
5 county prosecutors, and sheriff's officer, sergeant sheriff's officer,  
6 lieutenant sheriff's officer, captain sheriff's officer, chief sheriff's  
7 officer, and sheriff's investigator in the offices of the county  
8 sheriffs, and any patrolman or other police officer of the Board of  
9 Commissioners of the Palisades Interstate Park appointed pursuant  
10 to R.S.32:14-21. The term shall also mean county corrections  
11 police officer, county corrections police sergeant, county  
12 corrections police lieutenant, county corrections police captain, and  
13 investigator in a county department of corrections, and officer,  
14 detective, sergeant, lieutenant, and captain of a county police  
15 department, State corrections officer and detective and investigator  
16 in the Division of Criminal Justice in the Department of Law and  
17 Public Safety, sheriff's corrections police officer, sheriff's  
18 corrections police sergeant, sheriff's corrections police lieutenant,  
19 and sheriff's corrections police captain, Burlington County Bridge  
20 Commission police officer, Burlington County Bridge Commission  
21 police sergeant, Burlington County Bridge Commission police  
22 lieutenant, and Burlington County Bridge Commission police  
23 captain, Cherry Hill campus police officer, any permanent and full  
24 time firefighter, emergency medical technician, and public safety  
25 dispatcher employed by the State, a county, fire district, or a  
26 municipality, or agency thereof, Parole Officer, Senior Parole  
27 Officer, Parole Sergeant or Assistant District Parole Officer, Parole  
28 Lieutenant or District Parole Supervisor, Parole Captain, Deputy  
29 Chief of Parole and Chief of Parole.

30 If the Prison Officers' Pension Fund is terminated as provided in  
31 section 10 hereof, "law enforcement officer" shall also mean any  
32 permanent and full-time active employee of the State of New Jersey  
33 holding the title of correction officer, correction sergeant,  
34 correction lieutenant, correction captain or deputy keeper in the  
35 Division of Correction and Parole, or any member of the Prison  
36 Officers' Pension Fund on the date of such termination.

37 (cf: P.L.2019, c.407, s.20)

38  
39 <sup>1</sup>**[4.] 3.**<sup>1</sup> This act shall take effect immediately.