

52:14-17.38

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

(State Health Benefits program--premium payment for retired employees)

NJSA 52:14-17.38

LAWS 1981

CHAPTER 436

Bill No. A1213

Sponsor(s) Jackman and others

Date Introduced Feb. 25, 1980

Committee: Assembly County Gov't

Senate State Gov., Fed. & Interstate Rel. & Vet Aff; Rev., Fin. & Approp.

Amended during passage Yes  
According to Governor's recommendations

~~Yes~~ Amendments during passage denoted by asterisks

Date of Passage: Assembly June 16, 1980

Re-enacted 1-4-82

Senate June 25, 1981

Re-enacted 1-7-82

Date of approval Jan. 9, 1982

Following statements are attached if available:

Sponsor statement	Yes	<del>Yes</del> (Below)
Committee Statement: Assembly	<del>Yes</del>	No
Senate	<del>Yes</del>	No 2-2-81, 2-23-81, 5-4-81
Fiscal Note	<del>Yes</del>	No
Veto Message	Yes	<del>Yes</del>
Message on signing	Yes	<del>Yes</del>

Following were printed:

Reports	<del>Yes</del>	No
Hearings	<del>Yes</del>	No

Sponsor's statement  
The purpose of this bill is to permit the employer of certain retired employees of counties, municipalities and school districts to pay the premium or periodic charges for benefits provided to survivors of a retired employee and his dependents covered under the New Jersey State Health Benefits Program.

6/22/81

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1-9-82

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## ASSEMBLY, No. 1213

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 25, 1980

By Assemblymen JACKMAN, T. GALLO, DEVERIN, PELLECCCHIA,  
HOLLENBECK and VAN WAGNER

Referred to Committee on County Government

AN ACT concerning certain retired employees of counties, municipalities and school districts and their dependents and \***[survivors]**\* *\*surviving spouses\** in connection with the New Jersey State Health Benefits Program and amending P. L. 1964, c. 125.

1 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
2 of New Jersey:

1 1. Section 7 of P. L. 1964, c. 125 (C. 52:14-17.38) is amended  
2 to read as follows:

3 7. The Division of Pensions shall certify to the certifying agent  
4 of each employer electing participation under the program the  
5 premium rates and periodic charges applicable to the coverage  
6 provided for employees and dependents. The participating em-  
7 ployer shall remit to the division all contributions to premiums  
8 and periodic charges in advance of their due dates, subject to the  
9 rules and regulations of the commission.

10 The employer shall reimburse the active employee for his pre-  
11 mium charges under Part B of the Federal Medicare Program  
12 covering the employee and the employee's spouse.

13 From funds allocated therefor, the employer other than the State  
14 may pay the premium or periodic charges for the benefits provided  
15 to a retired employee and his dependents covered under the pro-  
16 gram, **[but not including survivors,]** if such employeee retired from  
17 a State or locally-administered retirement system on a benefit based  
18 on 25 years or more of service credited in such retirement system,  
19 excepting the employee who elected deferred retirement, but in-  
20 cluding the employee who retired on a disability pension based on  
21 fewer years of service credited in such retirement system and may  
22 also reimburse such retired employee for his premium charges  
23 under Part B of the Federal Medicare Program covering 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.

24 retired employee and the employee's spouse. "Retired employee  
25 and his dependents" may, upon adoption of an appropriate reso-  
26 lution therefor by the participating employer, also include other-  
27 wise eligible employees, and their dependents, who retired from a  
28 State or locally-administered retirement system on or after July 1,  
29 1964, notwithstanding that said employer became a participating  
30 employer in the New Jersey State Health Benefits Program after  
31 said date. *\*The term may also, upon adoption of an appropriate*  
32 *resolution therefor by the participating employer, include otherwise*  
33 *eligible employees, and their dependents who did not elect to con-*  
34 *tinue coverage in the program during such time after the employer*  
35 *became a participating employer that the employer did not pay*  
36 *premium or periodic charges for benefits to retired employees and*  
37 *their dependents pursuant to this section.\** Eligibility and enroll-  
37A ment of such employees and dependents shall be in accordance with  
37B such rules and regulations as may be adopted by the State Health  
37C Benefits Commission.

38 *The employer other than the State may, by resolution, pay the*  
39 *premium or periodic charges for the benefits provided to the \***[sur-***  
40 *vivors]\* \*surviving spouses\* of a retired employee and his depend-*  
41 *ents covered under the program as provided in this section.*

1 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT, FEDERAL AND  
INTERSTATE RELATIONS AND VETERANS  
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO  
ASSEMBLY, No. 1213

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 2, 1981

SPONSOR'S STATEMENT

The purpose of this bill is to permit the employer of certain retired employees of counties, municipalities and school districts to pay the premium or periodic charges for benefits provided to survivors of a retired employee and his dependents covered under the New Jersey State Health Benefits Program.

SENATE COMMITTEE COMMENT

The fiscal statement of the Division of Pensions contains the comment that, "We are hard put to determine the actual cost implications because we don't know what kind of survivors would be eligible, but even in a limited context and narrow interpretation the number is likely to be considerable and could affect the benefit structure of the retirement system." The division notes that the cost for health insurance for the average single individual is \$330.00 per year.

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SENATE REVENUE, FINANCE AND APPROPRIATIONS  
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1213

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 23, 1981

This bill permits, but does not require, an employer other than the State to pay the premiums or charges for benefits under the New Jersey State Health Benefits Program on behalf of survivors of a retired employee.

Because this bill is permissive, not directive, no cost is imposed on a county or municipal governing body, nor on a school district, except that they may by resolution determine to incur any costs.

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SENATE REVENUE, FINANCE AND APPROPRIATIONS  
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 1213

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 4, 1981

This bill permits, but does not require, an employer other than the State to pay the premiums or charges for benefits under the New Jersey State Health Benefits Program on behalf of survivors of a retired employee.

Because this bill is permissive, not directive, no cost is imposed on a county or municipal governing body, nor on a school district, except that they may by resolution determine to incur any costs.

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

December 17, 1981

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 1213

To the General Assembly:

Pursuant to Article V, Section I, Paragraph 14(b) of the Constitution, I am returning Assembly Bill No. 1213, with my objections for reconsideration.

This bill permits a local government employer to pay the premium charge for benefits provided to the survivors of a retired employee under the State Health Benefits Program. Essentially, this bill seeks to extend the coverage to a retired employee's family after that person has died.

I support the intent of the bill and sympathize with the plight of a grieved family who has lost a beloved member, and at the same time, learns that the State Health Benefits Program no longer covers them. However, the language concerning who a survivor is is somewhat unclear. I am, therefore, recommending certain changes to make the language clear.

This bill is in slight conflict with a similar bill that originated in the Senate. In order to avoid any confusion, I have vetoed that measure, Senate Bill No. 985, and suggest the language changes be included in a revised version of this bill.

Accordingly, I herewith return Assembly Bill No. 1213 for reconsideration and recommend that it be amended as follows:

Page 1, Title, Line 2: Delete "survivors" insert "surviving spouses"

Page 2, Section 1, Line 31: After "date." insert "The term may also, upon adoption of an appropriate resolution therefor by the participating employer, include otherwise eligible employees, and their dependents who did not elect to continue coverage in the program during such time after the employer became a participating employer that the employer did not pay premium or periodic charges for benefits to retired employees and their dependents pursuant to this paragraph."

Page 2, Section 1, Lines 35-36: Delete "survivors" insert "surviving spouse"

Respectfully,

/s/ Brendan Byrne

Governor

[seal]

Attest:

/s/ Harold L. Hodes

Chief of Staff, Secretary

1-11-82

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

S-741, sponsored by Senator Joseph Hinkala (D-Passaic), increasing the benefits payable to paraplegic and hemiplegic veterans under the current law providing special pensions to disabled veterans, and extending those benefits to Vietnam-era paraplegic and hemiplegic veterans.

Under the bill, the benefits are raised from \$500.00 per year to \$750.00 per year. An estimated 20 to 30 Vietnam-era veterans are expected to become eligible for the program which already provides benefits to 340 disabled veterans. The act takes effect immediately.

A-57, sponsored by Assemblyman William Flynn (D-Middlesex), will enhance the voting security of school board elections by requiring voters to sign a "signature book", the procedure followed in regular elections. Currently, voters in school board elections sign "poll lists" which are not organized to permit cross-checking of voters' names.

A-3499, sponsored by Assemblyman Dennis L. Riley (D-Camden), extending the provisions of the "Senior Citizens and Disabled Persons Protected Tenancy Act of 1981" to qualified tenants of mobile home parks. The Tenancy Act gives qualified seniors and disabled tenants the right to remain in their dwellings for up to 40 years after conversion to a condominium or cooperative.

A-2343, sponsored by Assemblyman John Paul Doyle (D-Ocean), allowing counties and municipalities to transfer unneeded property to a sewerage authority or to an organization which educates, or provides treatment to, persons afflicted with developmental disabilities. These provisions are amendments to a current statute which permits unneeded public property to be used for worthy charitable purposes.

A-1213, sponsored by Assemblyman Christopher Jackman (D-Hudson), permitting local governments to continue premiums on benefits provided to survivors and dependents of retired employees. At present, dependents of retired employees enjoy benefits only as long as the retired employee is alive.

-more-



within said fire lines such authority shall supersede that of any municipal police authority. The authority hereby invested in the chief or other superior officer, or State fire warden, shall terminate at such time as he shall declare the fire out. Nothing in this act shall affect the powers possessed by the Governor under the various emergency acts nor the powers possessed by any State agency to protect the public health, welfare and safety.

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved January 9, 1982.

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#### CHAPTER 436

AN ACT concerning certain retired employees of counties, municipalities and school districts and their dependents and surviving spouses in connection with the New Jersey State Health Benefits Program and amending P. L. 1964, c. 125.

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

1. Section 7 of P. L. 1964, c. 125 (C. 52:14-17.38) is amended to read as follows:

**C. 52:14-17.38 Health benefits for active and retired employees.**

7. The Division of Pensions shall certify to the certifying agent of each employer electing participation under the program the premium rates and periodic charges applicable to the coverage provided for employees and dependents. The participating employer shall remit to the division all contributions to premiums and periodic charges in advance of their due dates, subject to the rules and regulations of the commission.

The employer shall reimburse the active employee for his premium charges under Part B of the Federal Medicare Program covering the employee and the employee's spouse.

From funds allocated therefor, the employer other than the State may pay the premium or periodic charges for the benefits provided to a retired employee and his dependents covered under the program, if such employee retired from a State or locally-admin-

istered retirement system on a benefit based on 25 years or more of service credited in such retirement system, excepting the employee who elected deferred retirement, but including the employee who retired on a disability pension based on fewer years of service credited in such retirement system, and may also reimburse such retired employee for his premium charges under Part B of the Federal Medicare Program covering the retired employee and the employee's spouse. "Retired employee and his dependents" may, upon adoption of an appropriate resolution therefor by the participating employer, also include otherwise eligible employees, and their dependents, who retired from a State or locally-administered retirement system on or after July 1, 1964, notwithstanding that said employer became a participating employer in the New Jersey State Health Benefits Program after said date. The term may also, upon adoption of an appropriate resolution therefor by the participating employer, include otherwise eligible employees, and their dependents, who did not elect to continue coverage in the program during such time after the employer became a participating employer that the employer did not pay premium or periodic charges for benefits to retired employees and their dependents pursuant to this section. Eligibility and enrollment of such employees and dependents shall be in accordance with such rules and regulations as may be adopted by the State Health Benefits Commission.

The employer other than the State may, by resolution, pay the premium or periodic charges for the benefits provided to the surviving spouse of a retired employee and his dependents covered under the program as provided in this section.

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved January 9, 1982.

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