# LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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(County law enforcement officers

---health insurance)

NJSA:

40A:10-23

LAWS OF:

1993

CHAPTER: 300

BILL NO:

S749

SPONSOR(S)

Rand

DATE INTRODUCED:

May 7, 1992

COMMITTEE:

ASSEMBLY:

State Government

SENATE:

Community Affairs

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE:

First reprint enacted

Yes

Amendments during passage

denoted by superscript numbers

DATE OF PASSAGE:

ASSEMBLY:

March 8, 1993

SENATE:

December 17, 1993

DATE OF APPROVAL:

December 23, 1993

FOLLOWING STATEMENTS ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

SPONSOR STATEMENT:

Yes

COMMITTEE STATEMENT:

ASSEMBLY:

Yes

SENATE:

Yes

FISCAL NOTE:

No

VETO MESSAGE:

No

MESSAGE ON SIGNING:

No

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

REPORTS:

No

**HEARINGS:** 

No

## [FIRST REPRINT] SENATE, No. 749

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY

#### INTRODUCED MAY 7, 1992

#### By Senator RAND

AN ACT concerning the payment of health insurance premiums for certain retired county law enforcement officers 1[and],1 amending N.J.S.40A:10-23 <sup>1</sup> and supplementing Title 40A of the 3 4 New Jersey Statutes<sup>1</sup>.

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

1. N.J.S.40A:10-23 is amended to read as follows:

40A:10-23. Payment of premiums after retirement. Retired employees shall be required to pay for the entire cost of coverage for themselves and their dependents at rates which are deemed to be adequate to cover the benefits, as affected by Medicare, of the retired employees and their dependents on the basis of the utilization of services which may be reasonably expected of the older age classification; provided, however, that the total rate payable by a retired employee for himself and his dependents, for coverage under the contract and for Part B of Medicare, shall not exceed by more than 25% the total amount that would have been required to have been paid by the employee and his employer for the coverage maintained had he continued in office or active employment and he and his dependents were not eligible for Medicare benefits.

The employer may, in its discretion, assume the entire cost of such coverage and pay all of the premiums for employees who have retired on a disability pension or after 25 years' or more service with the employer, or have retired and reached the age of 62 or older with at least 15 years of service with the employer, including the premiums on their dependents, if any, under uniform conditions as the governing body of the local unit shall prescribe. The period of time a county law enforcement officer has been employed by any county or municipal police department, sheriff's department or county prosecutor's office, may be counted cumulatively as "service with the employer" for the purpose of qualifying for payment of health insurance premiums by the county pursuant to this section.

(cf: P.L.1985, c.224, s.1)

<sup>1</sup>2. (New section) Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.40A:10-23 or any other law to the contrary, a county of the second class which has entered into contracts of group hospitalization, medical surgical, major medical or health insurance or contracted with a nonprofit hospital service or

EXPLANATION——Matter enclosed is bold—faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enarred and is intended to be on teed in the law

### S749 [1R]

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medical service corporation pursuant to N.J.S.40A:10-17 shall 1 2 pay the entire cost of such coverage during retirement for any policeman, as defined in section 1 of P.L.1944, c.255 3 (C.43:16A-1), who is enrolled in the Police and Firemen's 4 5 Retirement System of New Jersey and who retires from service with the county after September 30, 1991 and on or before 6 September 30, 1993 and for the employee's dependents, as well 7 8 as the cost of the employee's coverage under Part B of Medicare, if the employee has a minimum of 25 years of public employment 9 10 at least 15 years of which were with the county.

Any person who qualifies for the benefit provided pursuant to this section but who retired prior to the effective date of this act shall be reimbursed by the county for the cost of coverage incurred since the date of retirement.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>[2.] <u>3.</u> This act shall take effect immediately.

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Concerns employer-paid health insurance for certain county law
enforcement officers upon retirement.

# SENATE, No. 749

### STATE OF NEW JERSEY

#### INTRODUCED MAY 7, 1992

#### By Senator RAND

AN ACT concerning the payment of health insurance premiums for certain retired county law enforcement officers and amending N.J.S.40A:10-23.

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

1. N.J.S.40A:10-23 is amended to read as follows:

40A:10-23. Payment of premiums after retirement. Retired employees shall be required to pay for the entire cost of coverage for themselves and their dependents at rates which are deemed to be adequate to cover the benefits, as affected by Medicare, of the retired employees and their dependents on the basis of the utilization of services which may be reasonably expected of the older age classification; provided, however, that the total rate payable by a retired employee for himself and his dependents, for coverage under the contract and for Part B of Medicare, shall not exceed by more than 25% the total amount that would have been required to have been paid by the employee and his employer for the coverage maintained had he continued in office or active employment and he and his dependents were not eligible for Medicare benefits.

The employer may, in its discretion, assume the entire cost of such coverage and pay all of the premiums for employees who have retired on a disability pension or after 25 years' or more service with the employer, or have retired and reached the age of 62 or older with at least 15 years of service with the employer, including the premiums on their dependents, if any, under uniform conditions as the governing body of the local unit shall prescribe. The period of time a county law enforcement officer has been employed by any county or municipal police department, sheriff's department or county prosecutor's office, may be counted cumulatively as "service with the employer" for the purpose of qualifying for payment of health insurance premiums by the county pursuant to this section.

(cf: P.L.1985, c.224, s.1)

2. This act shall take effect immediately.

#### STATEMENT

This bill permits a county to count the time a county law enforcement officer has spent in employment in any county or municipal police department, sheriff's department or county

EXPLANATION--Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above will is not enacted and is intended to be mitted or the law

prosecutor's office in calculating "service with the employer" pursuant to N.J.S.40A:10-23.

Under that section of law, a local government employer may, at its discretion, assume the entire cost of health insurance premiums for employees who have retired after 25 years or more of service with the employer or who have retired and reached the age of 62 or older with at least 15 years of service with the employer, including the premiums on their dependents.

Under current law, in order to qualify for the payment of health insurance premiums upon retirement, all service must be with the local unit that was the last employer prior to retirement.

Allows county law enforcement officers to receive credit for time spent with certain other employers to qualify for payment of health insurance benefits by county upon retirement.

#### ASSEMBLY STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

## SENATE, No. 749

with Assembly committee amendments

### STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: FEBRUARY 22, 1993

The Assembly State Government Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Senate, No. 749.

This bill amends the statute authorizing local government employers to provide their active and retired employees with group health insurance coverage through a private carrier.

Under the statute, the employer may, at its discretion, assume the entire cost of continuing health benefit coverage after retirement for employees and the dependents of employees who retire at any age after 25 years or more of service with the employer, or who retire at age 62 or older with at least 15 years of service with the employer.

Under the bill, a county would be permitted to include as "service with the employer" the time a county law enforcement officer retiring from the county's service has spent in employment in any county or municipal police department, sheriff's department or county prosecutor's office in calculating that service for the purpose of determining eligibility for the paid coverage.

The bill also provides that a county of the second class which covers its active employees for health benefits under a contract with a private carrier shall provide paid post-retirement health benefit coverage to any policeman member of the Police and Firemen's Retirement System who retires from service with the county after September 30, 1991 and on or before September 30, 1993 with at least 25 years of public employment, at least 15 years of which shall have been with the county.

### **COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS**

The committee adopted amendments to this bill to incorporate the provision mandating paid post-retirement health benefit coverage for certain policemen retiring from service with a county of the second class.

#### SENATE COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

# SENATE, No. 749

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: NOVEMBER 16, 1992

The Senate Community Affairs Committee favorably reports Senate Bill No. 749.

Senate Bill No. 749 permits a county to count the time a county law enforcement officer has spent in employment in any county or municipal police department, sheriff's department or county prosecutor's office in calculating "service with the employer" pursuant to N.J.S.40A:10-23.

Under that section of law, a local government employer may, at its discretion, assume the entire cost of health insurance premiums for employees who have retired after 25 years or more of service with the employer or who have retired and reached the age of 62 or older with at least 15 years of service with the employer, including the premiums on their dependents.

Under current law, in order to qualify for the payment of health insurance premiums upon retirement, all service must be with the local unit that was the last employer prior to retirement.