

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT COMMISSION P. O. BOX 1429, HARRISBURG, PA 17105-1429

March 2, 2015

The Honorable Sean D. Wiley Majority Chairman Senate Intergovernmental Operations Committee Senate of Pennsylvania 185 Main Capitol Building Harrisburg, PA 17120

Re: Senate Bill Number 129, Printer's Number 511

Dear Senator Wiley:

I am writing in response to your request concerning an actuarial note for the above referenced bill. Senate Bill Number 129, Printer's Number 511, would amend the act of August 31, 1971, P. L. 398, No. 96, known as the County Pension Law (Act 96 of 1971), to clarify that cost-of-living adjustments, if given to retired county employees, would not need to be calculated retroactively to the date of the previous cost-of-living increase and would not need to apply the cost-of-living index change for each year since the previous cost-of-living increase. The bill also defines the cost-of-living index that would be used in the determination of the cost-of-living adjustment changes as the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers for the Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland area.

Under the Public Employee Retirement Commission Act (Act 66 of 1981), the Commission has a mandated responsibility to review any legislative changes that affect public employee retirement systems. At my direction, the Commission staff has reviewed the provisions of Senate Bill Number 129, Printer's Number 511, and determined that: 1) on February 25, 2015, the Commission voted to attach an actuarial note to Senate Bill Number 129, Printer's Number 265; 2) the Commission's actuarial note on Senate Bill Number 129, Printer's Number 265, continues to apply to Senate Bill Number 129, Printer's Number 511; and 3) Senate Bill Number 129, Printer's Number 511, will have no additional actuarial cost impact beyond that described in the Commission's previous actuarial note on Senate Bill Number 129, Printer's Number 511.

Based upon the determination that Senate Bill Number 129, Printer's Number 511, will have no actuarial cost impact beyond that described in the Commission's previous actuarial note on Senate Bill Number 129, Printer's Number 265, I am informing you, on behalf of the Commission, that the bill will not require an actuarial note prior to further consideration by the General Assembly.

I trust this letter adequately responds to your request. If I may be of any further assistance, please feel free to contact me by telephoning (717) 783-6100.

Sincerely,

John T. Durbin Chairman

Enclosure

cc: The Honorable Joseph B. Scarnati, III
The Honorable Vincent J. Hughes
The Honorable Jake Corman
The Honorable John H. Eichelberger
The Honorable John R. Gordner
The Honorable Anthony H. Williams
The Honorable Vincent J. Hughes
The Honorable John H. Eichelberger
The Honorable John P. Blake
The Honorable Scott R. Wagner
Ms. Megan Consedine

The Honorable Robert B. Mensch
The Honorable Wayne D. Fontana
The Honorable Patrick M. Browne

Ms. Megan Consedine
Mr. C.J. Hafner
Ms. Stacey Connors
Mr. Gregory K. Jordan

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 129

Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY WILEY, EICHELBERGER, BLAKE, COSTA, HUGHES, WILLIAMS, FONTANA, YUDICHAK, BOSCOLA, BROWNE, ARGALL, GORDNER, GREENLEAF, HUTCHINSON, VOGEL, VULAKOVICH, WARD, BREWSTER, KITCHEN, SCHWANK, SMITH, TARTAGLIONE, AUMENT AND BROOKS, JANUARY 29, 2015

SENATOR EICHELBERGER, FINANCE, AS AMENDED, FEBRUARY 25, 2015

AN ACT

Amending the act of August 31, 1971 (P.L.398, No.96), entitled "An act providing for the creation, maintenance and operation 2 of a county employes' retirement system, and imposing certain 3 charges on counties and providing penalties," further 4 providing for definitions and for supplemental benefits. 5 6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania 7 hereby enacts as follows: Section 1. Section 2 of the act of August 31, 1971 (P.L.398, 8 No.96), known as the County Pension Law, is amended by adding a 10 definition to read: 11 Section 2. Definitions. -- As used in this act: * * * 12 13 (5.1) "Cost-of-living index" means the Consumer Price Index 14 for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for the Pennsylvania, New 15 Jersey, Delaware and Maryland area. * * * 16 Section 2. Section 30(b) of the act, amended July 18, 1986 17 (P.L.1410, No.126), is amended to read: 18

- 1 Section 30. Supplemental Benefits.--* * *
- 2 (b) The cost-of-living increase shall be reviewed at least
- 3 once in every three years by the board which may adjust the
- 4 <u>CURRENT MONTHLY BENEFIT BY THE</u> percentages in accordance with <--
- 5 cost-of-living index at the time of review[.], provided that the
- 6 <u>adjustment need not be calculated retroactively to the date of</u>
- 7 the previous cost-of-living increase approved by the board under_
- 8 this section and need not apply the cost-of-living index change
- 9 for each year since such previous cost-of-living increase.
- 10 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.