ASSEMBLY, No. 2802 STATE OF NEW JERSEY 213th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JUNE 12, 2008

Sponsored by: Assemblyman JOHN J. BURZICHELLI District 3 (Salem, Cumberland and Gloucester)

SYNOPSIS

Provides additional retirement benefits to certain employees of State government; creates Workforce Reduction Planning Board to oversee workforce reduction requirements in Executive Branch; imposes limit on number of employees in Executive and Judicial Branch.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



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AN ACT providing additional retirement benefits to certain

employees of State government and creating a Workforce

Reduction Planning Board and supplementing Title 52 of the

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Revised Statutes.

WHEREAS, The public interest requires the control of long term costs and pension liabilities associated with the retirement of employees of State government pursuant to an early retirement program; and WHEREAS, The public interest requires the maximization of short and long term budget savings associated with the reduction in the overall workforce for the State that will occur as a result of an offer of an early retirement incentive program; and WHEREAS, The public interest requires assurance that a workforce reduction obtained as a result of an early retirement incentive program is maintained by a cap on the total number of employees to be administered through workforce reduction planning; and WHEREAS, To maximize savings and limit pension liabilities resulting from an early retirement incentive program, it is essential to limit the retirement systems through which an early retirement incentive program will be offered to the Public Employees' Retirement System and the Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund, to require that any employee who participates in such a program be already eligible to retire from State service and to further limit participation in the program to only a designated subset of employees who already are eligible to retire from State service; and WHEREAS, Because the public interest requires that savings associated with vacancies achieved through an early retirement program not be lost by rehiring retired former employees, directly or indirectly, it is appropriate to establish restrictions prohibiting eligible employees who retire and receive a benefit pursuant to this act from eligibility for employment in, or from being awarded a contract to perform, or from performing professional services for the State as part of a contract awarded to a third party, by the branch of State government from which they retired, for a period of three years following the effective date of retirement; and WHEREAS, To further ensure budget savings and limit liabilities, an early retirement incentive program must not be made available to employees of independent State authorities, or to employees enrolled in certain special sections of the Public Employees' Retirement System, or to certain employees in State departments or agencies when there is a determination that the mission of those departments or agencies are principally related to the provision of direct care or when the nature of their operations otherwise does not permit the imposition of a strict limit on the filling of vacancies; now, therefore, **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1 An eligible State employee or an eligible Judiciary 1. a. 2 employee who is at least 58 years of age and has at least 25 years of 3 service credit under the Public Employees' Retirement System, 4 established pursuant to P.L.1954, c.84 (C.43:15A-1 et seq.), or the 5 Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund, established pursuant 6 N.J.S.18A:66-1 et seq., other than a veteran who retires on a 7 veteran's retirement, shall receive an additional three years of 8 service credit under the Public Employees' Retirement System or 9 the Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund.

An employee who is at least 58 years of age and has at least 25 years of service credit and retires on a veteran's retirement under the Public Employees' Retirement System or the Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund shall receive an additional pension under the retirement system in the amount of 3/55 of the compensation upon which the retirement allowance is based.

16 The additional retirement benefit provided pursuant to this 17 subsection shall be applicable only to the full-time State 18 employment from which an eligible employee retires to receive the 19 benefit and the compensation for that employment.

20 b. For an eligible State employee who is at least 60 years of 21 age and has at least 20, but less than 25, years of service credit 22 under the Public Employees' Retirement System or the Teachers' 23 Pension and Annuity Fund, the retirement system shall pay the 24 premium or periodic charges for benefits provided to the retired 25 State employee and the employee's dependents, but not including 26 survivors, under the "New Jersey State Health Benefits Program 27 Act," P.L.1961, c.49 (C.52:14-17.25 et seq.), in the same manner 28 provided for State payment of premiums or periodic charges for a 29 retired State employee with 25 or more years of service credit under 30 section 6 of P.L.1996, c.8 (C.52:14-17.28b) for Public Employees' 31 Retirement System members, and in the same manner provided for 32 State payment of premiums or periodic charges for a qualified 33 retiree from the Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund under section 34 3 of P.L.1987, c.384 (C.52:14-17.32f) for Teachers' Pension and 35 Annuity Fund members.

c. An eligible State employee who is at least 60 years of age
and has at least 10, but less than 20, years of service credit under
the Public Employees' Retirement System or the Teachers' Pension
and Annuity Fund shall receive an additional pension under the
Public Employees' Retirement System or the Teachers' Pension and
Annuity Fund of \$500 a month in each of the 24 months following
the effective date of retirement.

d. To receive the benefits provided by this section, an eligible
State employee or an eligible Judiciary employee shall submit an
application for retirement on or after March 1, 2008 but not later
than July 15, 2008 and retire not later than August 1, 2008.

47 Service credit in the Public Employees' Retirement System or48 the Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund established through a

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purchase completed after the effective date of this act, P.L. , c.
 (pending before the legislature as this bill), shall not be considered
 in determining an employee's eligibility for the benefit provided
 pursuant to subsections a., b., and c. of this section.

5 An application submitted by an eligible State employee or an 6 eligible Judiciary employee for retirement within the time period set 7 forth herein to receive the benefits provided shall be irrevocable 8 seven days after submission.

e. For the purpose of this section:

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10 "Eligible State employee" means a full-time employee of the 11 Executive Branch of State government eligible to participate in the 12 New Jersey State Health Benefits Program of the State of New Jersey, but not including an employee of the Department of Human 13 14 Services, Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs, Department 15 of Corrections, Juvenile Justice Commission in but not of the 16 Department of Law and Public Safety, Office of the Public 17 Defender in but not of the Department of the Treasury, and 18 Department of Children and Families.

The term shall not include an employee of Rutgers, The State
University; the New Jersey Institute of Technology; the University
of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey; or a State college or
university.

23 The term shall not include an employee of a public authority, 24 board, commission, corporation, or other agency or instrumentality 25 of the State allocated in, but not of, a principal department of State 26 government pursuant to Article V, Section IV, paragraph 1 of the 27 New Jersey Constitution authorized to participate in the Public 28 Employees' Retirement System under section 73 of P.L.1954, c.84 29 (C.43:15A-73) or P.L.1990, c.25 (C.43:15A-73.2 et seq.), which 30 entity was authorized under P.L.2002, c.23 to provide additional 31 retirement benefits to certain employees, as such entities are 32 identified by the Division of Pensions and Benefits in consideration 33 that the division submits a separate request for payment and 34 receives a separate payment for benefits purposes from the entity. 35 This paragraph shall not be deemed to exclude the New Jersey 36 Commerce and Economic Growth Commission or its successor.

The term shall not include an employee of a public agency or organization as defined in section 71 of P.L.1954, c.84 (C.43:15A-71), or a person participating in the Public Employees' Retirement System under the provisions of P.L.1972, c.167 (C.43:15A-135 et seq.), P.L.2001, c.259 (C.43:15A-142 et seq.), P.L.2001, c.366 (C.43:15A-155 et seq.) or P.L.1953, c.202 (C.32:23-1 et seq.).

43 "Eligible Judiciary employee" means a full-time employee of
44 the Judicial Branch of State Government eligible to participate in
45 the New Jersey State Health Benefits Program of the State of New
46 Jersey. The term shall not include a Justice of the Supreme Court,
47 or a Judge of the Superior Court, or a Judge of a Municipal Court,
48 or an employee of a Municipal Court.

1 f. When the needs of the Executive Branch of State 2 government require the services of an employee who elects to retire 3 and receive a benefit pursuant to this section, a State department 4 may delay the effective date of retirement of the employee until the 5 first day of any calendar month after August 1, 2008, but not later 6 than July 1, 2009. For each such delayed retirement, the State 7 department shall request the approval of the State Treasurer by 8 submitting in writing an explanation of the needs of the department, 9 the services required of the employee, and the reasons why that 10 particular employee's services are so essential as to necessitate a 11 delay. The delay shall be effective only upon approval of the 12 request by the State Treasurer. A request by an eligible State 13 employee for a delay in the effective date of retirement, whether the 14 employee provides reasons for the delay or not, shall not be 15 considered by the State Treasurer unless the State department 16 submits a request for a delay to the State Treasurer with the 17 explanation described above.

When the needs of the Judicial Branch of State government require the services of an employee who elects to retire and receive a benefit pursuant to this section, the Judiciary may delay the effective date of retirement of the employee until the first day of any calendar month after August 1, 2008, but not later than July 1, 2009, pursuant to protocols to be issued by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

25 An eligible State employee who applies to retire and receive the 26 benefits provided by this section shall be deemed to consent, by that 27 application, to a delay in the employee's effective date of retirement 28 if the State department requests and receives approval for such a 29 delay. An eligible Judiciary Employee who applies to retire and 30 receive the benefits provided by this section shall be deemed to 31 consent, by that application, to a delay in the employee's effective 32 date of retirement if the Chief Justice determines that such a delay 33 is appropriate. Such an employee's receipt of the benefits provided 34 by this section shall be conditioned upon faithful performance of 35 services by the employee during the period of delay.

A delay in the effective date of retirement of an eligible State employee or an eligible Judiciary employee shall not extend the time period set forth in this section within which an employee shall qualify for a benefit pursuant to this section. The retirement of an employee for whom the effective date of retirement has been delayed shall be irrevocable.

For an eligible State employee or an eligible Judiciary employee who is a member of the Public Employees' Retirement System or the Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund whose effective date of retirement is delayed and who dies before the retirement becomes effective, the retirement shall be effective as of the first day of the month after the date of death of the member.

1 g. The actuaries for the Public Employees' Retirement System 2 and the Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund shall determine the 3 liabilities of the retirement systems for the additional service credit 4 or pension provided pursuant to this section and for the early 5 retirement of employees in accordance with the tables of actuarial 6 assumptions adopted by the boards of trustees of the retirement 7 systems. These liabilities shall be added to the accrued liabilities of 8 the State under the retirement systems and shall be funded as 9 provided under section 24 of P.L.1954, c.84 (C.43:15A-24), section 10 2 of P.L.1990, c.6 (C.43:15A-24.1), N.J.S.18A:66-18, and section 2 11 of P.L.1987, c.385 (C.18A:66-18.1), respectively.

h. An eligible State employee or an eligible Judiciary employee
who retires and receives a benefit pursuant to this section shall
forfeit all tenure rights.

15 i. An eligible State employee who retires and receives a 16 benefit pursuant to this section shall not be eligible for appointment 17 to, or employment in, any position or capacity in the Executive 18 Branch of State government for a period of three years following 19 the effective date of retirement. An eligible State employee who 20 retires and receives a benefit pursuant to this section shall be barred from being awarded any contract for professional services by the 21 22 Executive Branch of State Government, or from performing 23 professional services for the State as part of a contract awarded to a 24 third party by the Executive Branch of State government, for a 25 period of three years following the effective date of retirement.

26 An eligible Judiciary employee who retires and receives a 27 benefit pursuant to this section shall not be eligible for appointment 28 to, or employment in, any position or capacity in the Judicial 29 Branch of State Government for a period of three years following 30 the effective date of retirement. An eligible Judiciary employee 31 who retires and receives a benefit pursuant to this section shall be 32 barred from being awarded any contract for professional services by 33 the Judicial Branch of State Government, or from performing 34 professional services for the State as part of a contract awarded to a 35 third party by the Judicial Branch of State Government, for a period 36 of three years following the effective date of retirement.

37 j. The Director of the Division of Pensions and Benefits in the 38 Department of the Treasury may promulgate rules and regulations 39 that the director deems necessary for the effective implementation 40 section. Notwithstanding any provision this of the of 41 "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et 42 seq.) to the contrary, the division may adopt immediately upon 43 filing with the Office of Administrative Law such regulations as the 44 division deems necessary to implement the provisions of this act, 45 which shall be effective for a period not to exceed 270 days following enactment of P.L., c. (pending before the Legislature 46 47 as this bill), and may thereafter be amended, adopted, or readopted 48 by the division in accordance with the requirements of the

"Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et
 seq.).

3 k. The Division of Pensions and Benefits in the Department of 4 the Treasury shall report in writing to the Joint Budget Oversight 5 Committee beginning on August 15, 2008, and annually thereafter 6 on or before August 15, through 2014, on the results of the 7 additional retirement benefits provided pursuant to this section. In 8 cooperation with the Workforce Reduction Planning Board 9 established pursuant to section 2 of P.L. , c. (C.)(pending 10 before the Legislature as this bill) and based on information 11 provided by the board, the report shall provide an analysis of the 12 impact of this section in order to document the aggregate costs incurred and aggregate savings realized by the State as a result of 13 14 this section. The report shall include, but need not be limited to, the 15 number of applications to retire filed pursuant to this section; the 16 number of applications to retire approved; the number of delayed 17 retirements; total annual savings; total additional one-time costs; 18 and the corresponding retirement systems unfunded liability.

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20 2. (New section) a. There is established in the Department of the Treasury a Workforce Reduction Planning Board composed of 21 22 five members. The board shall be composed of the State Treasurer; 23 the Director of the Division of Budget and Accounting in the 24 Department of the Treasury; either the chair of the Merit System 25 Board or its successor overseeing civil service matters for the State, 26 or a person designated by the Governor; and two persons designated by the Governor. Not later than July 30, 2008, the State Treasurer 27 28 shall certify to the board the number of full-time employees, 29 excluding seasonal employees and employees of independent 30 authorities, employed by each department of the Executive Branch 31 of State government as of the final pay period in Fiscal Year 2008. 32 Within 60 days of that certification by the State Treasurer, the board 33 shall establish for each department the maximum number of 34 employees that will be permitted to be on each department's payroll 35 as of the final pay period of Fiscal Year 2009. The aggregate 36 number of employees that will be permitted to be on the payroll for 37 all departments as of the final pay period of Fiscal Year 2009 shall 38 not exceed the number of employees certified by the State Treasurer 39 to be on the payroll as of the final pay period of Fiscal Year 2008, 40 less 90 percent of the number of employees who elect to retire and 41 receive a benefit pursuant to section 1 of P.L. , c. (pending 42 before the Legislature as this bill). For Fiscal Year 2010 and every 43 year thereafter, the number of employees in total for all departments 44 in the Executive Branch of State government shall not exceed the 45 number of employees certified by the State Treasurer to be on the 46 payroll as of the final pay period of Fiscal Year 2008, less 90 47 percent of the number of employees who elect to retire and receive 48 a benefit pursuant to section 1 of P.L., c. (pending before the

Legislature as this bill). The cap established pursuant to this
 section shall not be exceeded unless specifically authorized by law.

b. Within 60 days of the receipt of its maximum employee count from the board, each department shall prepare and submit to the board a plan demonstrating how the department intends to achieve its maximum employee count. The board shall review and approve, or modify and approve, each departmental workforce reduction plan within 30 days of its submittal.

9 c. The board shall submit detailed quarterly reports of its 10 activities to the Joint Budget Oversight Committee and the 11 Governor. The board shall cooperate with the Division of Pensions 12 and Benefits in the Department of the Treasury by providing 13 such information as may be needed for the division to submit the 14 annual reports required by subsection k. of section 1 of P.L. , 15 c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

16 d. The board shall monitor implementation of each 17 departmental workforce reduction plan and departmental 18 compliance with the cap established pursuant to this section. Each 19 department shall fully cooperate with the board in monitoring 20 implementation of the plan, and shall provide the board with such 21 information as may be requested by the board.

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23 3. (New section) The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court shall 24 establish policies and procedures to ensure that the aggregate 25 number of full-time employees of the Judicial Branch of State 26 government eligible to participate in the New Jersey State Health 27 Benefits Program of the State of New Jersey, other than Justices of 28 the Supreme Court, Judges of the Superior Court, Judges of a 29 Municipal Court, and employees of a Municipal court, who are on 30 the payroll as of the final pay period of Fiscal Year 2009 shall not 31 exceed the number of such employees on the payroll as of April 1, 32 2008, less 90 percent of the number of employees who elect to 33 retire and receive a benefit pursuant to section 1 of P.L. 34 c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill). For Fiscal Year 35 2010 and every year thereafter, the number of such employees shall 36 not exceed the number of such employees on the payroll as of the 37 final pay period of April 1, 2008, less 90 percent of the number of employees who elect to retire and receive a benefit pursuant to 38 39 section 1 of P.L., c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill). 40 The cap established pursuant to this section shall not be exceeded 41 unless specifically authorized by law.

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4. This act shall take effect immediately.

STATEMENT

This bill provides additional retirement benefits to eligible State employees in the Executive Branch of State government and eligible Judiciary employees in the Judicial Branch of State government who apply to retire on or after March 1, 2008 but by July 15, 2008 and retire by August 1, 2008.

8 An eligible State employee or an eligible Judiciary employee 9 who is at least 58 years of age and has at least 25 years of service 10 credit under the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) or 11 the Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF) will receive an 12 additional three years of service credit. An employee who is at 13 least 58 years of age and has at least 25 years of service credit and 14 retires on a veteran's retirement under the PERS or the TPAF will 15 receive an additional pension in the amount of 3/55 of the 16 compensation upon which the retirement allowance is based.

17 For an eligible State employee, but not an eligible Judiciary 18 employee, who is at least 60 years of age and has at least 20, but 19 less than 25, years of service credit under the PERS or the TPAF, 20 the retirement system will pay the premium or periodic charges for 21 health care benefits provided to the retired State employee and the 22 employee's dependents, but not including survivors, under the State 23 Health Benefits Program, in the same manner provided for State 24 payment of premiums or periodic charges for a retired State 25 employee with 25 or more years of service credit under current law 26 and in the same manner provided for State payment of premiums or 27 periodic charges for a qualified retiree from the TPAF under current 28 law.

An eligible State employee, but not an eligible Judiciary employee, who is at least 60 years of age and has at least 10, but less than 20, years of service credit under the PERS or the TPAF will receive an additional pension of \$500 a month for 24 months following the date of retirement.

To receive these benefits, an eligible State employee or an eligible Judiciary employee must submit an application for retirement on or after March 1, 2008 but by July 15, 2008 and retire no later than August 1, 2008. An application submitted by an eligible State employee or an eligible Judiciary employee for retirement within the time period set to receive the benefits provided will be irrevocable seven days after submission.

An "eligible State employee" means a full-time employee of the
Executive Branch of State government eligible to participate in the
New Jersey State Health Benefits Program of the State of New
Jersey, but not including an employee of the Department of Human
Services, Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs, Department
of Corrections, Juvenile Justice Commission in but not of the
Department of Law and Public Safety, Office of the Public

1 2 Defender in but not of the Department of the Treasury, and
 Department of Children and Families.

The term does not include an employee of Rutgers, The State University; the New Jersey Institute of Technology; the University Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey; or a State college or university.

7 The term does not include an employee of a public authority, 8 board, commission, corporation, or other agency or instrumentality 9 of the State allocated in, but not of, a principal department of State 10 government pursuant to Article V, Section IV, paragraph 1 of the 11 New Jersey Constitution, authorized to participate in the Public 12 Employees' Retirement System under section 73 of P.L.1954, c.84 13 (C.43:15A-73) or P.L.1990, c.25 (C.43:15A-73.2 et seq.), or an 14 employee of a public agency or organization as defined in section 15 71 of P.L.1954, c.84 (C.43:15A-71), or a person participating in the 16 Public Employees' Retirement System under the provisions of 17 P.L.1972, c.167 (C.43:15A-135 et seq.), P.L.2001, c. 259 (C.43:15A-142 et seq.), P.L.2001, c.366 (C.43:15A-155 et seq.) or 18 19 P.L.1953, c.202 (C.32:23-1 et seq.).

"Eligible Judiciary employee" means a full-time employee of the
Judicial branch of State Government eligible to participate in the
New Jersey State Health Benefits Program of the State of New
Jersey. The term does not include a Justice of the Supreme Court,
or a Judge of the Superior Court, or a Judge of a Municipal Court or
an employee of a Municipal Court.

26 An eligible State employee who retires and receives a benefit 27 will not be eligible for appointment to, or employment in, any 28 position or capacity in the Executive Branch of State government 29 for a period of three years following the effective date of 30 retirement. An eligible State employee who retires and receives a 31 benefit will be barred from being awarded any contract for 32 professional services by the Executive Branch of State government, 33 or from performing professional services for the State as part of a 34 contract awarded to a third party by the Executive Branch of State 35 government, for a period of three years following the effective date 36 of retirement.

37 An eligible Judiciary employee who retires and receives a benefit 38 pursuant to this section will not be eligible for appointment to, or 39 employment in, any position or capacity in the Judicial Branch of 40 State Government for a period of three years following the effective 41 date of retirement. An eligible Judiciary employee who retires and 42 receives a benefit will be barred from being awarded any contract 43 for professional services by the Judicial Branch of State 44 Government, or from performing professional services for the State 45 as part of a contract awarded to a third party by the Judicial Branch 46 of State Government, for a period of three years following the 47 effective date of retirement.

1 When the needs of the Executive Branch of State government 2 require the services of an employee who elects to retire and receive 3 a benefit, a State department may delay the effective date of 4 retirement of the employee until the first day of any calendar month 5 after August 1, 2008, but not later than July 1, 2009. For each such 6 delayed retirement, the State department must request the approval 7 of the State Treasurer by submitting in writing an explanation of the 8 needs of the department, the services required of the employee, and 9 the reasons why that particular employee's services are so essential 10 as to necessitate a delay. The delay will be effective only upon 11 approval of the request by the State Treasurer. A request by an 12 eligible State employee for a delay in the effective date of 13 retirement, whether the employee provides reasons for the delay or 14 not, will not be considered by the State Treasurer unless the State 15 department submits a request for a delay to the State Treasurer with 16 the explanation described above.

17 When the needs of the Judicial Branch of State Government 18 require the services of an employee who elects to retire and receive 19 a benefit, the Judiciary may delay the effective date of retirement of 20 the employee until the first day of any calendar month after August 21 1, 2008, but not later than July 1, 2009, pursuant to protocols to be 22 issued by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

23 An eligible State employee or an eligible Judiciary employee 24 who applies to retire and receive the benefits will be deemed to 25 consent, by that application, to a delay in the employee's effective 26 date of retirement with regard to an eligible state employee, if the 27 State department requests and receives approval for such a delay or, 28 with regard to an eligible Judiciary employee, if the Chief Justice 29 determines that such a delay is appropriate. Such an employee's 30 receipt of the benefits provided by this bill will be conditioned upon 31 faithful performance of service by the employee during the period 32 of delay.

33 A request by an eligible State employee or an eligible Judiciary 34 employee for a delay in the effective date of retirement, whether the 35 employee provides reasons for the delay or not, will not be 36 sufficient reason to approve a delay.

37 The Division of Pensions and Benefits in the Department of 38 Treasury will report in writing to the Joint Budget Oversight 39 Committee beginning on August 15, 2008, and annually thereafter 40 on or before August 15, through 2014, on the results of the 41 additional retirement benefits provided.

42 In addition, this bill establishes a Workforce Reduction Planning 43 Board composed of five members: the State Treasurer; the Director 44 of the Division of Budget and Accounting in the Department of the 45 Treasury; either the chair of the Merit System Board or its 46 successor overseeing civil service matters for the State, or a person 47 designated by the Governor; and two persons designated by the 48 Governor. Not later than July 30, 2008, the State Treasurer will

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1 certify to the board the number of full-time employees, excluding 2 seasonal employees and employees of independent authorities, 3 employed by each department of the Executive Branch of State 4 government as of the final pay period in Fiscal Year 2008. Within 5 60 days of that certification by the State Treasurer, the board will 6 establish for each department the maximum number of employees 7 that will be permitted to be on each department's payroll as of the 8 final pay period of Fiscal Year 2009. The aggregate number of 9 employees that will be permitted to be on the payroll for all 10 departments as of the final pay period of Fiscal Year 2009 will not 11 exceed the number of employees certified by the State Treasurer to 12 be on the payroll as of the final pay period of Fiscal Year 2008, less 13 90 percent of the number of employees who elect to retire and 14 receive a benefit under the bill. For Fiscal Year 2010 and every 15 year thereafter, the number of employees, in total for all 16 departments in the Executive Branch of State government, will not 17 exceed the number of employees certified by the State Treasurer to 18 be on the payroll as of the final pay period of Fiscal Year 2008, less 19 90 percent of the number of employees who elect to retire and 20 receive a benefit under the bill. The cap established pursuant to this 21 section cannot be exceeded unless specifically authorized by law.

Within 60 days of the receipt of its maximum employee count from the board, each department will prepare and submit to the board a plan demonstrating how the department intends to achieve its maximum employee count. The board will review and approve, or modify and approve, each departmental workforce reduction plan within 30 days of its submittal.

The board will submit detailed quarterly reports of its activitiesto the Joint Budget Oversight Committee and the Governor.

The board will monitor implementation of each departmental workforce reduction plan and departmental compliance with the cap established. Each department will fully cooperate with the board in monitoring implementation of the plan, and will provide the board with such information as may be requested by the board.

35 The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court will establish policies 36 and procedures to ensure that the aggregate number of full-time 37 employees of the Judicial Branch of State government eligible to 38 participate in the New Jersey State Health Benefits Program of the 39 State of New Jersey, other than Justices of the Supreme Court, 40 Judges of the Superior Court, Judges of a Municipal Court, and 41 employees of a Municipal Court, who are on the payroll as of the 42 final pay period of Fiscal Year 2009 will not exceed the number of 43 such employees on the payroll as of April 1, 2008, less 90 percent 44 of the number of employees who elect to retire and receive a benefit 45 under the bill. For Fiscal Year 2010 and every year thereafter, the 46 number of such employees will not exceed the number of such 47 employees on the payroll as of the final pay period of April 1, 2008, 48 less 90 percent of the number of employees who elect to retire and

- 1 receive a benefit under the bill. The cap established will not be
- 2 exceeded unless specifically authorized by law.