

ASSEMBLY STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO **ASSEMBLY, No. 4544**

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: OCTOBER 19, 2020

The Assembly State and Local Government Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 4544.

This bill, as amended, would permit a certified school nurse who retired from the Teachers' Pension and Annuity Fund (TPAF) to return to work full time as a certified school nurse with a board of education without being reenrolled in the TPAF if reemployment commences during the period of the public health emergency and state of emergency declared due to the COVID-19 pandemic. If the retired school nurse returns to work with the former employer, it must occur more than 60 days after the retirement. This bill will permit the school nurse to receive the TPAF retirement allowance as well as a salary. The bill permits the return to work under a contract for one year, which may be renewed only for one additional year. The total period of reemployment with any individual board of education is not exceed a two-year period, unless so approved by the Commissioner of Education as being in the best interests of the school district.

Current law has a substantially similar provision to permit certain TPAF retirees to return to work with a board of education in a TPAF position as a certificated superintendent or certificated administrator for a limited period of time, without reenrollment in the TPAF.

There may be additional requirements that would have to be met in certain circumstances for a return to work in order to comply with the laws and regulations of the federal Internal Revenue Code.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amended the bill to restrict applicability to those nurses reemployed during the period of the public health emergency and state of emergency declared due to the COVID-19 pandemic.