

ASSEMBLY, No. 1510

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 8, 1996

By Assemblyman BUCCO, Assemblywoman MURPHY,
Assemblymen Carroll, Augustine and Lance

1 AN ACT concerning death benefits and the Public Employees'
2 Retirement System of New Jersey.

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

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7 1. Notwithstanding the provisions of P.L.1954, c.84 (C.43:15A-1
8 et seq.) or any other law, rule or regulation to the contrary, the widow
9 or widower of any person who (1) was previously enrolled as a
10 member of the Public Employees' Retirement System for a period of
11 at least 10 months; (2) was separated involuntarily from service in a
12 permanent position covered by the retirement system with a county
13 government employer due to a lay-off and withdrew from the
14 retirement system; (3) subsequently, within four weeks of separation,
15 was reemployed by the same county government employer in a
16 temporary position and was ineligible for reenrollment in the
17 retirement system until accumulation of 12 months of continuous
18 service in that temporary position; and (4) within less than one year of
19 the date of that reemployment, died as a result of an accident met in
20 the actual performance of duty at some definite time and place shall be
21 entitled to payment in one sum of an amount equal to one and one-half
22 times the annual compensation received by the person at time of death,
23 and if, during the person's enrollment in the retirement system, the
24 person elected to purchase the additional death benefit coverage as
25 provided in section 57 of P.L.1954, c.84 (C.43:15A-57), shall also be
26 entitled to, upon payment of the required employee contributions
27 therefor, an additional death benefit of an amount equal to one and
28 one-half times the annual compensation received by the person at the
29 time of death. The widow or widower shall make any required
30 payments in a lump sum at the time of application for an additional
31 death benefit. Employee and employer contributions shall be due and
32 payable from the date of the person's reemployment.

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34 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall expire one year
35 thereafter.

STATEMENT

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This bill provides an accidental death benefit of an amount equal to one and one-half times annual compensation at the time of death to the widow or widower of a county government employee who died in the line of duty and who (1) was previously enrolled as a member of the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) for a period of at least 10 months; (2) was separated involuntarily from service in a PERS-covered permanent position with a county government employer due to a lay-off and withdrew from PERS; (3) within four weeks, was reemployed by the same county government employer in a temporary position but was ineligible for PERS reenrollment until accumulation of 12 months of continuous service in that temporary position; and (4) within less than one year of the date of that reemployment, died as a result of an accident met in the actual performance of duty. The bill also provides that such widow or widower shall be entitled to an additional death coverage benefit of an amount equal to one and one-half times annual compensation at the time of death if, during the PERS enrollment, the spouse elected to purchase the additional death benefit coverage available to PERS members and if the widow or widower pays the required employee contributions therefor.

Provides death benefits to widow or widower of county employee who died in line of duty before eligible for PERS reenrollment.