

**ASSEMBLY, No. 5161**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**219th LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED DECEMBER 16, 2020

**Sponsored by:**  
**Assemblyman GORDON M. JOHNSON**  
**District 37 (Bergen)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires base salary of Palisades Interstate Park law enforcement officers to be equivalent to average base salary of officers in contiguous municipalities.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning law enforcement officers appointed by the  
2 Palisades Interstate Park Commission and amending R.S.32:14-  
3 4.

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

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8 1. R.S.32:14-4 is amended to read as follows:

9 32:14-4. Palisades Interstate Park Commission shall have  
10 power to appoint such employees as it may deem necessary to carry  
11 out the provisions of the Palisades Interstate Park compact and the  
12 purposes of this subtitle, subject to the provisions of the applicable  
13 Civil Service Statute of the party states, and may employ counsel.  
14 It may also determine the duties of its appointees, and make all  
15 reasonable rules and regulations respecting them. The commission  
16 shall have power to take any action necessary for securing and  
17 maintaining the benefits of the State employee retirement system of  
18 this State for its employees in this State and for such purpose  
19 employees of the commission to the extent to which the  
20 compensation paid for their services is derived from funds  
21 appropriated by this State or received from other sources in this  
22 State shall be deemed to be employees of this State and qualified  
23 for membership in said retirement system whether residents of this  
24 State or of the State of New York. For the purpose of determining  
25 their rights under the workers' compensation act of this State,  
26 employees of the commission employed wholly or partly in this  
27 State, and persons participating, under the supervision of the  
28 commission, in volunteer programs in that part of the Palisades  
29 Interstate Park located in New Jersey, shall be deemed to be  
30 employees of this State.

31 Employees of the commission whose salary is paid in full from  
32 funds appropriated by this State shall be deemed to be employees of  
33 this State for the purpose of covering such employees under the  
34 provisions of Title 11 (Civil Service) of the Revised Statutes as  
35 herein provided.

36 All offices, positions or employments held by such employees on  
37 the effective date of this amendatory act and so held continuously  
38 for a period of not less than six months prior thereto, which can be  
39 allocated to the classified service in accordance with the provisions  
40 of Title 11 of the Revised Statutes, shall be so allocated under  
41 appropriate titles by the Civil Service Commission and such persons  
42 shall be recorded, without examination, as having been permanently  
43 appointed thereto as of the dates of their respective original  
44 appointments by the commission under said titles and shall  
45 thereafter be under and subject to all provisions of Title 11 relating

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is  
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 to the classified service of the civil service. Those positions which  
2 the Civil Service Commission shall determine should be allocated  
3 to the unclassified service, shall be allocated to the unclassified  
4 service.

5 In the case of any such employees whose positions have been  
6 classified and allocated by the Civil Service Commission to a salary  
7 range corresponding to a range in the State compensation plan to  
8 which range positions having the same title in the service of the  
9 State, if any, are allocated and whose salaries in such range have  
10 been determined in accordance with the provisions of Title 11, the  
11 salaries of such employees upon being placed in allocated positions  
12 in the service of the State shall, with the approval of the budget  
13 director, be determined in the same manner as though they had been  
14 holding allocated positions in the service of the State. Other  
15 employees deemed to be employees of the State shall continue to be  
16 paid the salaries received by them immediately prior to the effective  
17 date of this act, but the salary of any such employee shall not be  
18 less than the minimum salary of the State salary range in which his  
19 position is allocated nor in excess of the maximum salary of such  
20 range.

21 The Civil Service Commission shall make provisions for transfer  
22 of all employees' sick and vacation leave as well as seniority credits  
23 accrued prior to allocation of their positions to the classified  
24 service.

25 Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the  
26 salary paid to a Palisades Interstate Park officer appointed pursuant  
27 to R.S.32:14-21 shall be equivalent to the average base salary paid  
28 to a law enforcement officer employed by a contiguous  
29 municipality with the equivalent training, experience, and years of  
30 service. Any difference between base salaries paid to the Palisades  
31 Interstate Park officers prior to the effective date of  
32 P.L. c, (C. ) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) and  
33 base salaries paid following the effective date of P.L. c, (C. )  
34 (pending before the Legislature as this bill) shall be allocated from  
35 the General Fund.

36 As used in this section, "base salary" means the salary provided  
37 pursuant to a salary guide or table and any amount provided  
38 pursuant to a salary increment, including any amount provided for  
39 longevity or length of service.

40 (cf: P.L.1987, c. 259, s.1)

41  
42 2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the third month  
43 next following the date of enactment, but the Palisades Interstate  
44 Park Commission may take any anticipatory action necessary to  
45 effectuate the purposes of this act.

STATEMENT

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This bill requires the base salary paid to Palisades Interstate Park officers to be equivalent to the average base salary paid to law enforcement officers employed by a contiguous municipality with the equivalent training, experience, and years of service. Under the bill, any salary increases paid to Palisades Interstate Park officers following the bill's enactment are to be allocated from the General Fund.

The bill defines "base salary" as the salary provided pursuant to a salary guide or table and any amount provided pursuant to a salary increment, including any amount provided for longevity or length of service.