
DISTRICT COUNCIL 37 - ALBANY LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

TO: Wanda Williams
Lawrence Kenchen

FROM: Sue Graham

DATE: January 6, 2011

RE: Pensions Meeting – January 10, 2011

LAYOFFS:

900 state employees were laid off on December 31, 2010.

2009-2010 Bills #s:

- **A.9174-A/Abbate-S.6215-A/Savino:** Allow certain employees of the New York City School Construction Authority to buy back service credit that were laid off beginning December 1, 2002 and then returned to active service by January 9, 2008. **Signed Chapter 157, Approval Memo #4.**
- **A.7282-A/Abbate--S.3718-A/Savino: Carbon Monoxide Extender.** Provides provisions for a reduced retirement age for TBTA maintainers. *TBTA Officers union got the fiscal note from Mr. North. Veto #6723.*

The following bills will need to be introduced and will have new bill #s for the 2011-12 Legislative Session.

- **A.7166/Abbate—S.4479/Dilan: TA Health Insurance for Retirees:** Provides health insurance coverage upon retirement for certain officers and employees of the NYC transit authority in the same manner as is provided for other NYC employees in the same retirement system. Assembly Ways and Means and Senate Finance Committees.
- **Statewide FAS 10-20%: A.2783-A/Abbate.** Establishes the maximum salary in any year for pension purposes shall be one hundred twenty percent of the average of the two prior years rather than one hundred ten percent for members Tier III and IV. Governmental Employees Committee.
- **Statewide Tier 3 and 4 Service Credit: A.7074-A/McEneny.** Allows certain Tier 3 and 4 retirement system members who have contributed for a period of 10 years or more to receive additional service credit. Governmental Employees Committee.
- **A7075-B/McEneny: Statewide 25 and out with cost.** Tier 2, 3 and 4 members to retire without a benefit reduction due to early retirement upon completion of 25 years with members contributing. Governmental Employees Committee.

- **A.8224-B/Abbate – S.5628-A/Savino:** Allows certain members of the New York State and local employees' retirement system to purchase and obtain additional service credit; also known as "air time". PEF introduced this bill and does not include the city systems. Stu Leibowitz has asked me to track it. Governmental Employees and Senate Calendar. (Bill and memo attached.)

For these bills to be introduced, DC37 needs to obtain fiscal notes for the 2011 Legislative Session:

- **Chapter 96 Reopener:** Allows members of NYCERS and NYCBERS to elect to obtain certain benefits provided by Chapter 96 of the laws of 1995.
- **NYC FAS 10-20%:** Establishes the maximum salary in any year for pension purposes shall be one hundred twenty percent of the average of the two prior years rather than one hundred ten percent for members of the New York city employees' retirement system or board of education retirement system of the city of New York.
- **Combine Ch. 96 Service Credit with Service Credit:** Allows certain tier 3 and 4 retirement system members who have contributed for a period of 10 years or more in the NYCBERS or the NYCERS to receive an additional month of service credit for each year of service in excess of 10 years of service for which such member has contributed.
- **Chapter 96 Escape:** Eliminates mandating participation in certain retirement plans for individuals who cannot benefit from such plans; allows for withdrawal by certain qualified members from the age 57 retirement program, the mandated physically taxing program and the incumbent-55/25 program.
- **Physically Taxing 25/50:** Establishes an optional twenty-five year/age fifty improved benefit retirement program for certain members performing physically taxing work.
- **Transit Cashier 25 and out:** Establishes age fifty/twenty-five year programs for members of the New York City employees' retirement system employed in transit cashier positions.
- **DC37 Peace Officers 25 and out:** Includes peace officer members and city investigator members of the NYCERS or the NYCBERS eligible for the optional twenty-five years of service regardless of age.
- **Construction Laborers 25 and out:** Establishes a twenty-five year retirement program for members of the New York City employees' retirement system or board of education retirement system of the city of New York employed in construction labor positions.
- **Provides a 20 and out early retirement incentive for all Chaplain employees of the City of New York.**

Tony Mattia, of Local 1931 would like us to obtain the fiscal notes on these:

- Disability benefits for TBTA bridge and tunnel maintainers.

- Establishes age 50/25 year retirement program for TBTA bridge and tunnel maintainers.
- Retirement benefits for TBTA bridge and tunnel maintenance members who suffer a condition of the heart.
- Provides provisions for a reduced retirement age for TBTA maintainers to become permanent.

Retirees

These bills will be introduced for this legislation session with new bill #s.

- **A.7457/Abbate-S.4099/Savino:** MTA Retirees to be reimbursed for the Medicare Part B premium payments. Assembly Corporations and Senate Transportation Committees.
- Establishes a variable supplements fund for certain members of the New York City employees' retirement system.
- Increases the cap on retirement benefits covered by COLA from \$18,000 to \$25,000.
- **A.2821/Abbate:** Increases the maximum percentage of the CPI for COLA benefits from 3% to 5%. Governmental Employees Committee.
- **A.2784/Abbate:** Remove 50% cap on COLA. Governmental Employees Committee.
- **A.2785/Abbate:** Reduction in multi-year waiting period for COLA. Governmental Employees Committee.
- **A.2822/Abbate:** Beneficiaries receive the COLA payment which had accrued until the deceased retired. Governmental Employees Committee.
- **A.2824/Abbate:** Increases and expands the current benefit afforded to those older retirees who have been more negatively impacted by inflation from their year of retirement through 1996 (Hamnook). Governmental Employees Committee.
- Retirees should be able to work as City Marshals while receiving their pensions the same as retired police, correction officers, Fire Fighters, Fire Marshals and Deputy Sheriffs.