



Senate

General Assembly

February Session, 2000

File No. 543

Senate Bill No. 121

Senate, April 12, 2000

The Committee on Appropriations reported through SEN. CRISCO of the 17th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

An Act Concerning A Task Force To Study The Teachers' Retirement Health Insurance System.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 (a) There is established a task force to study the teachers' retirement
2 health insurance system.

3 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members: (1) The
4 chairperson of the Teachers' Retirement Board, the Secretary of the
5 Office of Policy and Management, the Commissioner of Education, the
6 Insurance Commissioner, the State Comptroller, or their designees;
7 and (2) four public members one each appointed by the speaker of the
8 House of Representatives and the minority leader of the Senate who
9 shall be experienced in the management of large health insurance
10 plans, one each appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate
11 and the minority leader of the House of Representatives who shall be
12 representatives of the plan participants.

13 (c) All appointments to the task force shall be made no later than
14 sixty days after the effective date of this act. Any vacancy shall be filled
15 by the appointing authority.

16 (d) The Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management or the
17 secretary's designee shall serve as chairperson of the task force and
18 shall convene the task force not later than July 15, 2000.

19 (e) The task force shall conduct an independent study of the health
20 insurance benefits offered by the Teachers' Retirement Board and the
21 funding of the teachers' retirement health insurance program in order
22 to make recommendations concerning: (1) The long-term solvency of
23 the fund; (2) the method of funding for the municipal subsidy and the
24 state plans; (3) the expected future levels of cost to the state, active
25 teachers, and retired teachers covered by the system; (4) the level of
26 benefits that should be offered by the system; and (5) the impact of an
27 aging teacher population on the system's ability to provide these
28 benefits in the future.

29 (f) The task force shall report its findings and recommendations to
30 the Governor and the General Assembly not later than December 15,
31 2000, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general
32 statutes.

APP Committee Vote: Yea 50 Nay 0 JF

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: Cost

Affected Agencies: Teachers' Retirement Board, Office of Policy and Management, various agencies

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation**State Impact:**

The bill establishes a task force to study the health insurance benefits offered by the Teachers' Retirement Board and the funding of the teachers' retirement health insurance program. The study by the task force will require the expertise of a health care consultant at a cost of \$50,000 to \$75,000. The House version of the budget provides \$500,000 in OPM's budget for health insurance consulting services. Since the bill requires the secretary of OPM to chair the taskforce, this funding source would be available to provide health care expertise to the study.

OFA Bill Analysis

SB 121

AN ACT CONCERNING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE TEACHERS' RETIREMENT HEALTH INSURANCE SYSTEM.**SUMMARY:**

The bill establishes a task force to study the health insurance benefits offered by the Teachers' Retirement Board and the funding of the teachers' retirement health insurance program. The task force is to report its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly by December 15, 2000.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon Passage

TEACHERS' RETIREMENT HEALTH INSURANCE TASK FORCE***Recommendations***

The task force is charged with making recommendations concerning: (1) The long-term solvency of the health insurance fund; (2) the method of funding for the municipal subsidy and the state plans; (3) the expected future levels of the cost to the state, active teachers, and retired teachers covered by the system; and (5) the impact of an aging teacher population on the systems ability to provide these benefits in the future.

Membership

The task force consists of the following members: (1) the chairperson of the Teachers' Retirement Board, the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management (OPM), the Commissioner of Education, the Insurance Commissioner, the State Comptroller, or their designees; and (2) four public members one each appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives and the minority leader of the Senate who

shall be experienced in the management of large health insurance plans, one each appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate and the minority leader of the House of Representatives who shall be representatives of the plan participants. The bill specifies that the secretary of OPM or his designee serve as chairperson of the task force.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Appropriations Committee

Joint Favorable Report
Yea 50 Nay 0