



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 352

February Session, 2000

An Act Concerning Pensions For School Paraprofessionals.

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision (5) of section 7-425 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof:

3 (5) "Member" means any regular employee or elective officer
4 receiving pay from a participating municipality, any school
5 paraprofessional, and any regular employee of a free public library
6 [which] that receives part or all of its income from municipal
7 appropriation, who has been included by such municipality in the
8 pension plan as provided in section 7-427, but shall not include any
9 person, except a school paraprofessional, who customarily works less
10 than twenty hours a week if such person entered employment after
11 September 30, 1969, any police officer or firefighter who will attain the
12 compulsory retirement age after less than ten years of continuous
13 service in fund B, any teacher who is eligible for membership in the
14 state teachers retirement system, any person eligible for membership
15 in any pension system established by or under the authority of any
16 special act or of a charter adopted under the provisions of chapter 99,
17 or any person holding a position funded in whole or in part by the
18 federal government as part of any public service employment
19 program, on-the-job training program or work experience program,
20 provided persons holding such federally funded positions on July 1,
21 1978, shall not be excluded from membership but may elect to receive

22 a refund of their accumulated contributions without interest.

23 Sec. 2. Section 7-425 of the general statutes is amended by adding
24 subdivision (11) as follows:

25 (NEW) (11) "School paraprofessional" means an employee of a
26 public school who does not possess a certificate issued by the State
27 Board of Education and who serves as an instructional assistant in a
28 public school.

29 Sec. 3. (NEW) (a) On and after the effective date of this act, any
30 municipality that is not a member of the Municipal Employees'
31 Retirement Fund B, but has its own defined benefit plan shall allow
32 any school paraprofessional, as defined in section 7-425 of the general
33 statutes, as amended by this act, to participate in such plan. For
34 purposes of this section, "defined benefit plan" means a pension plan
35 under which benefits are paid according to a preset formula.

36 (b) This section does not apply to any such municipality in which a
37 pension plan has been successfully negotiated for such school
38 paraprofessionals as of the effective date of this act by the exclusive
39 bargaining representative of such paraprofessionals and (1) such
40 municipality, or (2) the local or regional boards of education within
41 such municipality.

42 Sec. 4. This act shall take effect from its passage.

LAB Committee Vote: Yea 9 Nay 2 JFS C/R ED

ED Committee Vote: Yea 15 Nay 14 JFS C/R APP