



INDEPENDENT FISCAL OFFICE

October 7, 2026

The Honorable Brad Roae
Minority Chairman
House State Government Committee
151 East Wing Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Re: Requested Actuarial Note for House Bill 349, Printer's Number 3943

Dear Chairman Roae:

This letter responds to your September 30, 2026 request concerning an actuarial note for House Bill 349, Printer's Number 3943. The bill would amend Title 71 (State Government) to allow State Police Officers to purchase up to five years of credited service in the State Employees' Retirement System (SERS) for service rendered as a municipal police officer within the Commonwealth. Both current State Police Officers and future State Police Officers with qualified service would be eligible for this benefit. For State Police Officers who began service prior to January 1, 2019, this service credit purchase would be included in calculations towards the DiLauro Award, if the purchase is made as a State Police Officer. At this time, SERS does not have data on the number of current State Police Officers who may qualify for this benefit, so an overall cost impact cannot be determined. However, SERS noted that it will likely recognize a cost due to the expected experience of State Police Officers on average being more expensive than other employees in the category upon which repayment calculations are based.

State Police Officers hired before January 1, 2019 may use the service credit purchase to qualify for the DiLauro Award. The DiLauro Award is a benefit available to those who served the Commonwealth as a State Police Officer for 20 or more years and provides an added pension benefit relative to the regular pension benefit available for state service. The award grants those with 20-24.99 years of State Police service with an annual pension benefit of 50% of the highest one-year earnings, excluding the year the annuitant departs State Police service, and those with 25+ years of State Police service 75% of the highest one-year earnings, excluding the year of departure.

Under section 615-B of the Administrative Code of 1929, the IFO reviews legislative changes that could affect public employee pension or retirement plans and provides actuarial notes for such legislation. Due to the lack of data available to SERS on the potential eligibility of current and future members, the IFO is unable to make a determination that there is a material actuarial cost impact to the system from House Bill 349, Printer's Number 3943 and further actuarial analysis is not required. The office reviewed the legislation for actuarial cost impact only, and not for potential legal, administrative or policy implications.

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If you have further questions regarding this response, please contact my office (contact@ifp.state.pa.us).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Matthew J. Knittel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Matthew" being more prominent than the last name "Knittel".

Matthew J. Knittel
Director, Independent Fiscal Office

cc: Governor Josh Shapiro
Members of the General Assembly