§1 - C.43:16A-7.4 §2 -C.43:16A-10.3 §3 -C.43:15A-43.1 §4 -C.43:15A-49.1 §5 - C.53:5A-10.1 §6- C.53:5A-14.4 §§7,8 - T&E §9 - Note

### P.L. 2020, CHAPTER 54, approved July 1, 2020 Assembly, No. 3945 (Second Reprint)

AN ACT concerning eligibility for accidental disability and 1 accidental death benefits for certain members of the Police and 2 Firemen's Retirement System <sup>1</sup>[and],<sup>1</sup> the Public Employees' 3 Retirement System<sup>1</sup>, and the State Police Retirement System<sup>1</sup> 4 who contract <sup>1</sup>[infectious diseases during a public health 5 emergency or state of emergency] <u>COVID-19<sup>1</sup></u> and test positive 6 for SARS-CoV- $2^2$  and supplementing P.L.1944, c.255 7 (C.43:16A-1 et seq.) <sup>1</sup>[and],<sup>1</sup> P.L.1954, c.84 (C.43:15A-8 1 et seq.)<sup>1</sup>, and P.L.1965, c.89 (C.53:5A-1 et seq.)<sup>1</sup>. 9 10 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State 11 12 of New Jersey: 13 1. For purposes of paragraph (1) of subsection a. of section 7 14 15 P.L.1944, c.255 (C.43:16A-7), permanent and total disability shall be deemed to have occurred as a direct result of a traumatic event 16 occurring during and as a result of the performance of regular or 17 assigned duties if: 18 the member <sup>1</sup>[contracts an infectious disease] <sup>2</sup>[contracted] 19 contracts<sup>2</sup> COVID-19<sup>1</sup> <sup>2</sup>and tests positive for SARS-CoV-2<sup>2</sup> during 20 <sup>2</sup>[the period of ]<sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup>[a] <u>the</u><sup>1</sup> public health emergency <sup>1</sup>[or] <sup>2</sup>[<u>and</u><sup>1</sup> 21 state of emergency] in the State<sup>2</sup> declared <sup>1</sup>[because of that 22 disease] by the Governor <sup>2</sup>[beginning March 9, 2020 but prior to 23 24 the termination date of either the public health emergency or the state of emergency, whichever occurs later<sup>1</sup>] in Executive Order 25 No. 103 of 2020 and as extended<sup>2</sup>; 26 27 the member is permanently and totally disabled as a result of <sup>2</sup>[the disease] COVID-19<sup>2</sup>; and 28

**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 <u>thus</u> is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>1</sup>Assembly AAP committee amendments adopted May 11, 2020.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>Senate SBA committee amendments adopted June 25, 2020.

1 the member's regular or assigned duties required the member to interact, and the member so interacted, with the public <sup>1</sup>or to 2 directly supervise other personnel so interacting with the public<sup>1</sup> on 3 any date <sup>2</sup>[after the declaration of] during<sup>2</sup> the public health 4 emergency <sup>1</sup>[or] <sup>2</sup>[and<sup>1</sup> state of emergency and] in the State 5 6 declared by the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020 and as extended and<sup>2</sup> within <sup>1</sup>[two weeks] <u>14 calendar days</u><sup>1</sup> prior to 7 the appearance of symptoms  $^{2}$ <u>consistent with COVID-19</u> $^{2}$  that shall 8 9 have been confirmed <sup>1</sup><u>in writing</u><sup>1</sup> by a <sup>1</sup>[physician] <u>licensed health</u> care provider<sup>1 2</sup>on a form approved by the board of trustees and 10 also confirmed by a positive test result for SARS-CoV-2<sup>2</sup>. 11

A member who <sup>2</sup>retired during the public health emergency 12 declared by the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020 and 13 as extended, and<sup>2</sup> has been approved for a retirement allowance 14 pursuant to a provision other than this section or section 7 of 15 P.L.1944, c.255 (C.43:16A-7) prior to the effective date of this act, 16 17 P.L., c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill), may apply 18 for a retirement allowance pursuant to this section and, if approved, 19 the prior approval shall be rescinded and the retirement allowance 20 pursuant to approval under this section shall be made retroactive to 21 the date of the initial approval of the rescinded retirement 22 allowance.

<sup>2</sup>[<sup>1</sup>This section shall also apply to a member who was
 performing regular or assigned duties but not yet enrolled in the
 Police and Firemen's Retirement System who would otherwise be
 eligible for an allowance pursuant to this section.<sup>1</sup>]<sup>2</sup>

This section shall not apply to any member who has retired and subsequently returned to employment pursuant to Executive Order No. 115 of 2020 or any other executive order similarly permitting a retired member to return to employment without reenrollment to assist during  ${}^{1}$ [a] the<sup>1</sup> public health emergency  ${}^{1}$ [or] and<sup>1</sup> state of emergency.

<sup>2</sup>New onset diseases and chronic psychological disease resulting
 from prior exposure to, and recovery from, COVID-19 shall not be
 deemed a permanent and total disability resulting from COVID-19.<sup>2</sup>

2. For purposes of paragraph (1) of section 10 of P.L.1944, c.255 (C.43:16A-10), a member whose death is attributable to <sup>1</sup>[an infectious disease] <u>COVID-19</u><sup>1</sup>, complications therefrom, or the aggravation or acceleration of a preexisting condition caused thereby shall be deemed to have occurred as the result of an accident met in the actual performance of duty at some definite time and place if:

the member contracted <sup>1</sup>[an infectious disease] <u>COVID-19</u><sup>1</sup>
<sup>2</sup>and the member's death occurs after receiving a positive test result
for SARS-CoV-2<sup>2</sup> during <sup>2</sup>[the period of]<sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup>[a] <u>the</u><sup>1</sup> public health

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emergency <sup>1</sup>[or] <sup>2</sup>[and<sup>1</sup> state of emergency] in the State<sup>2</sup> declared 1 <sup>1</sup>[because of that disease] by the Governor <sup>2</sup>[beginning March 9, 2 2020 but prior to the termination date of either the public health 3 4 emergency or the state of emergency, whichever occurs later<sup>1</sup>] in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020 and as extended<sup>2</sup>; 5 the member dies as a result of <sup>2</sup>[the disease] <u>COVID-19</u><sup>2</sup>; and 6 the member's regular or assigned duties required the member to 7 interact, and the member so interacted, with the public <sup>1</sup>or to 8 directly supervise other personnel so interacting with the public<sup>1</sup> on 9 any date <sup>2</sup>[after the declaration of] <u>during</u><sup>2</sup> the public health 10 emergency <sup>1</sup>[or] [and<sup>1</sup> state of emergency and] in the State 11 declared by the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020 and 12 <u>as extended and</u><sup>2</sup> within <sup>1</sup> [two weeks] <u>14 calendar days</u><sup>1</sup> prior to 13 14 the appearance of symptoms  $^{2}$ <u>consistent with COVID-19</u> $^{2}$  that shall have been confirmed <sup>1</sup><u>in writing</u><sup>1</sup> by a <sup>1</sup>[physician] <u>licensed health</u> 15 care provider<sup>1 2</sup>on a form approved by the board of trustees and also 16 confirmed by a positive test result for SARS-CoV- $2^2$ . 17 The filing of an accident report with the Police and Firemen's 18 19 Retirement System shall not be required for an accidental death benefit allowed pursuant to this section. 20 If a <sup>2</sup>member dies during the public health emergency in the 21 22 State declared by the Governor on Executive Order No. 103 of 2020 and as extended and the<sup>2</sup> benefit has been approved pursuant to a 23 provision other than this section or section 10 of P.L.1944, c.255 24 25 (C.43:16A-10) prior to the effective date of this act, P.L. , c. 26 (pending before the Legislature as this bill), a beneficiary may 27 apply for a benefit pursuant to this section and, if approved, the 28 prior approval shall be rescinded and the benefit pursuant to 29 approval under this section shall be made retroactive to the date of 30 the initial approval of the rescinded benefit. 31 <sup>2</sup>[<sup>1</sup><u>This section shall also apply to a member who was</u> 32 performing regular or assigned duties but not yet enrolled in the 33 Police and Firemen's Retirement System when the beneficiary would otherwise be eligible for a benefit pursuant to this section.<sup>1</sup>]<sup>2</sup> 34 This section shall not apply to any member who has retired and 35 subsequently returned to employment pursuant to Executive Order 36 37 No. 115 of 2020 or any other executive order similarly permitting a retired member to return to employment without reenrollment to 38 assist during <sup>1</sup>[a] <u>the</u><sup>1</sup> public health emergency <sup>1</sup>[or] <u>and</u><sup>1</sup> state of 39 40 emergency. 41 3. As used in this section, "law enforcement officer" includes, 42 43 but shall not be limited to, sheriff's officers and corrections 44 officers. 45 For purposes of subsection a. of section 43 of P.L.1954, c.84 (C.43:15A-43), permanent and total disability of  ${}^{1}\underline{a}^{1}$  member who is 46

1 a law enforcement officer, firefighter, or emergency medical 2 responder eligible to retire pursuant to that subsection a. shall be 3 deemed to have occurred as a direct result of a traumatic event 4 occurring during and as a result of the performance of regular or 5 assigned duties if:

the law enforcement officer, firefighter, or emergency medical 6 responder <sup>1</sup>[contracts an infectious disease] <sup>2</sup>[contracted] 7 contracts<sup>2</sup> COVID-19<sup>1</sup> <sup>2</sup> and tests positive for SARS-CoV-2<sup>2</sup> during 8 <sup>2</sup>[the period of]<sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup>[a] <u>the</u><sup>1</sup> public health emergency <sup>1</sup>[or] <sup>2</sup>[<u>and</u><sup>1</sup> 9 state of emergency] in the State<sup>2</sup> declared <sup>1</sup>[because of that 10 disease] by the Governor <sup>2</sup>[beginning March 9, 2020 but prior to 11 12 the termination date of either the public health emergency or the state of emergency, whichever occurs later<sup>1</sup>] in Executive Order 13 No. 103 of 2020 and as extended<sup>2</sup>; 14

the law enforcement officer, firefighter, or emergency medical
responder is permanently and totally disabled as a result of <sup>2</sup>[the
disease] <u>COVID-19</u><sup>2</sup>; and

18 the law enforcement officer, firefighter, or emergency medical 19 responder's regular or assigned duties required the law enforcement 20 officer, firefighter, or emergency medical responder to interact, and 21 the law enforcement officer, firefighter, or emergency medical responder so interacted, with the public <sup>1</sup>or to directly supervise 22 other personnel so interacting with the public<sup>1</sup> on any date <sup>2</sup>[after 23 the declaration of  $] \underline{during}^2$  the public health emergency <sup>1</sup>[or] 24 <sup>2</sup>[and<sup>1</sup> state of emergency and] in the State declared by the 25 Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020 and as extended and<sup>2</sup> 26 within <sup>1</sup>[two weeks] <u>14 calendar days</u><sup>1</sup> prior to the appearance of 27 symptoms <sup>2</sup>consistent with COVID-19<sup>2</sup> that shall have been 28 29 confirmed <sup>1</sup>in writing<sup>1</sup> by a <sup>1</sup>[physician] <u>licensed health care</u> 30 provider<sup>1</sup><sup>2</sup>on a form approved by the board of trustees and also confirmed by a positive test result for SARS-CoV-2<sup>2</sup>. 31

A member who is a law enforcement officer, firefighter, or 32 emergency medical responder and who <sup>2</sup>retired during the public 33 health emergency in the State declared by the Governor in 34 Executive Order No. 103 of 2020 and as extended and<sup>2</sup> has been 35 approved for a retirement allowance pursuant to a provision other 36 37 than this section or section 43 of P.L.1954, c.84 (C.43:15A-43) 38 prior to the effective date of this act, P.L., c. (pending before 39 the Legislature as this bill), may apply for a retirement allowance 40 pursuant to this section and, if approved, the prior approval shall be 41 rescinded and the retirement allowance pursuant to approval under 42 this section shall be made retroactive to the date of the initial 43 approval of the rescinded retirement allowance.

<sup>2</sup>[<sup>1</sup>This section shall also apply to a law enforcement officer,
 firefighter, or emergency medical responder who was performing
 regular or assigned duties but not yet enrolled in the Public

1 Employees' Retirement System who would otherwise be eligible for 2 an allowance pursuant to this section.<sup>1</sup>]<sup>2</sup> This section shall not apply to any member who has retired and 3 4 subsequently returned to employment pursuant to Executive Order 5 No. 115 of 2020 or any other executive order similarly permitting a 6 retired member to return to employment without reenrollment to 7 assist during <sup>1</sup>[a] the<sup>1</sup> public health emergency <sup>1</sup>[or] and<sup>1</sup> state of 8 emergency. 9 <sup>2</sup>New onset diseases and chronic psychological disease resulting 10 from prior exposure to, and recovery from, COVID-19 shall not be 11 deemed a permanent and total disability resulting from COVID-19.<sup>2</sup> 12 4. As used in this section, "law enforcement officer" includes, 13 14 but shall not be limited to, sheriff's officers and corrections officers. 15 16 For purposes of paragraph (1) of subsection a. of section 49 of 17 P.L.1954, c.84 (C.43:15A-49), a member who is a law enforcement 18 officer, firefighter, or emergency medical responder and whose 19 death is attributable to '[an infectious disease]  $\underline{COVID-19}^{1}$ , complications therefrom, or the aggravation or acceleration of a 20 preexisting condition caused thereby shall be deemed to have 21 22 occurred as the result of an accident met in the actual performance 23 of duty at some definite time and place if: the law enforcement officer, firefighter, or emergency medical 24 responder contracted <sup>1</sup>[an infectious disease] <u>COVID-19</u><sup>1 2</sup>and the 25 member's death occurs after receiving a positive test result for 26 <u>SARS-CoV-2</u><sup>2</sup> during <sup>2</sup>[the period of ]<sup>2</sup> <sup>1</sup>[a] <u>the</u><sup>1</sup> public health 27 emergency <sup>1</sup>[or] <sup>2</sup>[and<sup>1</sup> state of emergency] in the State<sup>2</sup> declared 28 <sup>1</sup>[because of that disease] by the Governor <sup>2</sup>[beginning March 9, 29 30 2020 but prior to the termination date of either the public health emergency or the state of emergency, whichever occurs later<sup>1</sup>] in 31 Executive Order No. 103 of 2020 and as extended<sup>2</sup>; 32 the law enforcement officer, firefighter, or emergency medical 33 responder dies as a result of <sup>2</sup>[the disease] <u>COVID-19</u><sup>2</sup>; and 34 the law enforcement officer, firefighter, or emergency medical 35 responder's regular or assigned duties required the law enforcement 36 37 officer, firefighter, or emergency medical responder to interact, and 38 the law enforcement officer, firefighter, or emergency medical responder so interacted, with the public <sup>1</sup>or to directly supervise 39 other personnel so interacting with the public<sup>1</sup> on any date <sup>2</sup>[after 40 the declaration of  $\frac{during^2}{during^2}$  the public health emergency <sup>1</sup>[or] 41 <sup>2</sup>[and<sup>1</sup> state of emergency and] in the State declared by the 42 Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020 and as extended and<sup>2</sup> 43 within <sup>1</sup>[two weeks] <u>14 calendar days</u><sup>1</sup> prior to the appearance of 44 symptoms <sup>2</sup>consistent with COVID-19<sup>2</sup> that shall have been 45 confirmed <sup>1</sup><u>in writing</u><sup>1</sup> by a <sup>1</sup>[physician] <u>licensed health care</u> 46

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provider<sup>1</sup><sup>2</sup>on a form approved by the board of trustees and also 1 2 confirmed by a positive test result for SARS-CoV-2<sup>2</sup>. The filing of an accident report with the Public Employees' 3 Retirement System shall not be required for an accidental death 4 5 benefit allowed pursuant to this section. If <sup>2</sup>[an application of a beneficiary] <u>a member dies during the</u> 6 7 public health emergency in the State declared by the Governor in 8 Executive Order No. 103 of 2020 and as extended and the benefit<sup>2</sup> 9 has been approved pursuant to a provision other than this section or 10 section 49 of P.L.1954, c.84 (C.43:15A-49) prior to the effective 11 date of this act, P.L., c. (pending before the Legislature as this 12 bill), a beneficiary may apply for a benefit pursuant to this section 13 and, if approved, the prior approval shall be rescinded and the 14 benefit pursuant to approval under this section shall be made 15 retroactive to the date of the rescinded initial approval. 16 <sup>2</sup>[<sup>1</sup><u>This section shall also apply to a law enforcement officer</u>, 17 firefighter, or emergency medical responder who was performing 18 regular or assigned duties but not yet enrolled in the Public 19 Employees' Retirement System when the beneficiary would otherwise be eligible for a benefit pursuant to this section.<sup>1</sup>]<sup>2</sup> 20 21 This section shall not apply to any member who has retired and 22 subsequently returned to employment pursuant to Executive Order 23 No. 115 of 2020 or any other executive order similarly permitting a 24 retired member to return to employment without reenrollment to assist during <sup>1</sup>[a] <u>the</u><sup>1</sup> public health emergency <sup>1</sup>[or] <u>and</u><sup>1</sup> state of 25 emergency. 26 27 <sup>1</sup>5. For purposes of subsection a. of section 10 of P.L.1965, 28 c.89 (C.53:5A-10), permanent and total disability shall be deemed 29 30 to have occurred as a direct result of a traumatic event occurring 31 during and as a result of the performance of regular or assigned 32 duties if: the member <sup>2</sup>[contracted] contracts<sup>2</sup> COVID-19 <sup>2</sup>and tests 33 positive for SARS-CoV-2<sup>2</sup> during <sup>2</sup>[the period of]<sup>2</sup> the public 34 health emergency <sup>2</sup>[and state of emergency] in this State<sup>2</sup> declared 35 by the Governor <sup>2</sup>[beginning March 9, 2020 but prior to the 36 37 termination date of either the public health emergency or the state 38 of emergency, whichever occurs later in Executive Order No. 103 39 of 2020 and as extended<sup>2</sup>; the member is permanently and totally disabled as a result of 40 <sup>2</sup>[the disease] COVID-19<sup>2</sup>; and 41 42 the member's regular or assigned duties required the member to 43 interact, and the member so interacted, with the public or to directly supervise other personnel so interacting with the public on any date 44 <sup>2</sup>[<u>after the declaration of</u>] <u>during</u><sup>2</sup> <u>the public health emergency</u> 45 <sup>2</sup>[and state of emergency and] in this State declared by the 46 Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020 and as extended and<sup>2</sup> 47

1 within 14 calendar days prior to the appearance of symptoms <sup>2</sup>consistent with COVID-19<sup>2</sup> that shall have been confirmed in 2 writing by a licensed health care provider <sup>2</sup>on a form approved by 3 the board of trustees and also confirmed by a positive test result for 4 SARS-CoV-2<sup>2</sup>. 5 6 <u>A member who</u> <sup>2</sup>retired during the public health emergency in 7 the State declared by the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 8 2020 and as extended and<sup>2</sup> has been approved for a retirement allowance pursuant to a provision other than this section or section 9 10 of P.L.1965, c.89 (C.53:5A-10) prior to the effective date of this 10 act, P.L., c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill), may 11 12 apply for a retirement allowance pursuant to this section and, if approved, the prior approval shall be rescinded and the retirement 13 14 allowance pursuant to approval under this section shall be made 15 retroactive to the date of the initial approval of the rescinded 16 retirement allowance. 17 <sup>2</sup>[This section shall also apply to a member who was performing 18 regular or assigned duties but not yet enrolled in the State Police Retirement System who would otherwise be eligible for an 19 allowance pursuant to this section.]<sup>2</sup> 20 This section shall not apply to any member who has retired and 21 22 subsequently returned to employment pursuant to Executive Order 23 No. 115 of 2020 or any other executive order similarly permitting a retired member to return to employment without reenrollment 24 25 during the public health emergency and state of emergency.<sup>1</sup> <sup>2</sup><u>New onset diseases and chronic psychological disease resulting</u> 26 from prior exposure to, and recovery from, COVID-19 shall not be 27 deemed a permanent and total disability resulting from COVID-19.<sup>2</sup> 28 29 <sup>1</sup><u>6</u>. For purposes of subsection a. of section 14 of P.L.1965, c.89 30 (C.53:5A-14), a member whose death is attributable to COVID-19, 31 complications therefrom, or the aggravation or acceleration of a 32 preexisting condition caused thereby shall be deemed to have 33 occurred as the result of an accident met in the actual performance 34 of duty at some definite time and place if: 35 the member contracted COVID-19<sup>2</sup> and the member's death 36 occurs after receiving a positive test result for SARS-CoV-2<sup>2</sup> during 37 the <sup>2</sup>[period of]<sup>2</sup> the public health emergency <sup>2</sup>[and state of 38 emergency] in this State<sup>2</sup> declared by the Governor <sup>2</sup>[beginning 39 March 9, 2020 but prior to the termination date of either the public 40 41 health emergency or the state of emergency, whichever occurs later] in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020 and as extended<sup>2</sup>; 42 the member dies as a result of <sup>2</sup>[the disease]  $COVID-19^2$ ; and 43 44 the member's regular or assigned duties required the member to 45 interact, and the member so interacted, with the public or to directly 46 supervise other personnel so interacting with the public on any date <sup>2</sup>[after the declaration of] during<sup>2</sup> the public health emergency 47

1 <sup>2</sup>[and state of emergency and] in this State declared by the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020 and as extended and<sup>2</sup> 2 within 14 calendar days prior to the appearance of symptoms 3 <sup>2</sup>consistent with COVID-19<sup>2</sup> that shall have been confirmed in 4 writing by a licensed health care provider <sup>2</sup>on a form approved by 5 6 the board of trustees and also confirmed by a positive test result for SARS-CoV-2<sup>2</sup>. 7 8 The filing of an accident report with the State Police Retirement 9 System shall not be required for an accidental death benefit allowed 10 pursuant to this section. If a <sup>2</sup>member dies during the public health emergency in the 11 State declared by the Governor in Executive Order No. 103 of 2020 12 and as extended and the<sup>2</sup> benefit has been approved pursuant to a 13 provision other than this section or section 14 of P.L.1965, c.89 14 15 (C.53:5A-14) prior to the effective date of this act, P.L., c. 16 (pending before the Legislature as this bill), a beneficiary may 17 apply for a benefit pursuant to this section and, if approved, the 18 prior approval shall be rescinded and the benefit pursuant to 19 approval under this section shall be made retroactive to the date of the initial approval of the rescinded benefit. 20 21 <sup>2</sup>[<u>This section shall also apply to a member who was performing</u> 22 regular or assigned duties but not yet enrolled in the State Police 23 Retirement System when the beneficiary would otherwise be eligible for a benefit pursuant to this section. ]<sup>2</sup> 24 25 This section shall not apply to any member who has retired and subsequently returned to employment pursuant to Executive Order 26 27 No. 115 of 2020 or any other executive order similarly permitting a retired member to return to employment without reenrollment to 28 assist during the public health emergency and state of emergency.<sup>1</sup> 29 30 <sup>1</sup>7. The Division of Pension and Benefits in the Department of 31 the Treasury<sup>2</sup>, and the board of trustees in the case of the Police and 32 Firemen's Retirement System,<sup>2</sup> shall notify all members of the 33 Police and Firemen's Retirement System, all law enforcement 34 officer, firefighter and emergency medical responder members of 35 the Public Employees' Retirement System, and all members of the 36 37 State Police Retirement System who are enrolled in those respective 38 retirement systems on the effective date of this act, P.L., c. (pending before the Legislature as this bill), of the provisions of this 39 act. The division<sup>2</sup>, and the board of trustees in the case of the 40 Police and Firemen's Retirement System,<sup>2</sup> shall also notify all 41 members who retired on or after March 9, 2020 and all beneficiaries 42 43 of members who died on or after March 9, 2020 of the provisions of 44 this act. The division<sup>2</sup>, and the board of trustees in the case of the Police 45 and Firemen's Retirement System,<sup>2</sup> shall provide the required 46 notice within 30 days after the effective date of this act.<sup>1</sup> 47

1 <sup>1</sup>8. Notwithstanding any provision of the "Administrative 2 Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), to the 3 contrary, the board of trustees for the Police and Firemen's 4 Retirement System, for the Public Employees' Retirement System 5 and for the State Police Retirement System, during the 90-day period following the effective date of this act, P.L., c. 6 7 (pending before the Legislature as this bill), may adopt, amend, or 8 repeal any rule or regulation on an emergency basis for a period not 9 to exceed 180 days for the purpose of the expeditious and effective 10 implementation of the provisions of this act. Any emergency rule or regulation authorized by this section shall be subject to such 11 12 terms and conditions as a board of trustees may deem appropriate. 13 Such emergency rules or regulations shall be effective when published by the board on the website of the Department of the 14 Treasury<sup>2</sup>, and on the website of the board of trustees in the case of 15 the Police and Firemen's Retirement System<sup>2</sup>. Notice of any 16 emergency rule or regulation pursuant to this section shall be 17 18 published in the New Jersey Register not later than 30 days subsequent to the implementation of the emergency rules or 19 regulations.<sup>1</sup> 20 21 <sup>1</sup>[5.] 9.<sup>1</sup> This act shall take effect immediately and shall be 22 retroactive to <sup>1</sup> [January 1, 2020] <u>March 9, 2020</u><sup>1</sup>. 23 24 25 26 27 28 Extends eligibility for accidental disability and accidental death 29 benefits to certain PFRS, SPRS, and PERS members who contract

30 COVID-19 and test positive for SARS-CoV-2.