



# Benefit Sweetener Scorecard 2014

Bills Vetoed by the Governor in Red  
Bills Signed and Chaptered in Green



Bill No.					Sponsors		Estimated Costs (\$ in millions)		
Assembly	Senate	Date Introduced	Status	Description	Assembly	Senate	State	Local	Notes
658	None	1/8/14	Held for Consideration in Committee in Assembly	Allows eight hours of excused leave for public employees and officers for colon cancer screening	Dinowitz; Colton; Kellner; Brook-Krasny; Hooper; Saladino; Titone		?	?	No fiscal note provided
902	3627	1/8/14	Advanced to Third Reading and on Committee Agenda in Senate; Held for Consideration in Committee in Assembly	Prohibits the diminution of health insurance benefits for retirees and their dependents for the State, local governments, school districts, and public authorities and commissions	Weprin; Brindisi; Jaffee; Titone; Colton; Raia; Benedetto; Clark; Fahy; Abinanti; Ceretto; DenDekker; Giglio; Gunther; Lavine; Markey; Mayer; McDonough; Montesano; Perry; Ra; Rivera; Saladino; Schimel; Skartados; Tenney; Thiele; Weisenberg; Zebrowski	Lanza	?	?	Limits cost-saving options
2589	None	1/8/14	Referred to Committee	Extends eligibility for VSF payments to housing and transit police who retired between 1968 and 1987 and to disabled retirees, line-of-duty widows and widowers, and registered domestic partners for all police officers, firefighters, housing police, transit police, and correction officers	Titone; Thiele; Sweeney		?	?	No fiscal note provided
3923	None	1/8/14	Held for Consideration in Committee	Allows school board members or retired school board members with 10 years of service to receive State health insurance	Pretlow		?	?	No fiscal note provided
4879	None	1/8/14	Referred to Committee	Allows Tier II, III, IV, V and VI members of NYSLERS to retire without a benefit reduction upon completion of 35 years of service without regard to age	Abbate; Colton; Cook; Hooper		\$87	\$0	In addition to one-time cost of \$87.1 million, requires annual 0.3% contribution for Tier V and 0.4% for Tier VI members
4890	None	1/8/14	Referred to Committee	Replaces the current benefit of 1.5% of final average salary for each year of service credit in excess of 30 years with 2.0% benefit for Tier III, IV and V members except for state correction officers	Abbate; Colton		\$1.100	?	In addition to past service cost of \$1.1 billion, requires added 0.2% annual contribution for Tier III, IV, and V members
4908	None	1/8/14	Referred to Committee	Allows members of NYSLERS with 10 years of service credit to purchase up to five years of service credit, or "air time," without having to work the additional years	Abbate		?	?	Costs would vary depending on the member's plan, tier, age, salary, current service, and amount of "air time" to be purchased
4910	None	1/8/14	Referred to Committee	Creates new alternative plan for peace officers in the State Department of Motor Vehicles, allowing them to retire upon completion of 25 years of creditable service	Abbate		\$1	\$0	One-time cost of \$708,000 plus annual cost of \$106,000 a year
4914	None	1/8/14	Referred to Committee	Provides all non-correction officers who are employed by the State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision with a performance of duty disability benefit of 75% of final average salary	Abbate; Colton; Aubry; Clark; Cook; Cymbrowitz; Hooper; Rivera; Titone; Weisenberg		\$13	\$0	Annual contributions of \$13 million required
4920	None	1/8/14	Referred to Committee	Allows Tier I and II employees of NYSLERS and NYSLPFRS to include up to 30 days of unused accumulated vacation time in the calculation of their final average salaries	Abbate; Colton; Cook; Cusick; Englebright; Weisenberg		\$110	\$45	\$98.9 million one-time cost and annual contribution increase of 0.8% of Tier I and II salaries; annual increase of \$11 million to NYS and \$45 million to participating employers
4922	4149	1/8/14	Referred to Committee	Adds presumption of on-the-job injury for heart disease impairments for peace officers at the Department of Corrections; entitles them to 75% disability pension	Abbate; Mosely; Aubry	Addabbo	\$0.1	\$0	Annual contributions of \$93,000 to NYS
4924	None	1/8/14	Referred to Committee	Guarantees retired teachers an additional pension of \$500 per year for each year of full-time credited service	Colton		\$0	\$33.8+	Annual cost of \$33.8 million for NYSTRS; no fiscal estimates provided for NYCTRS
4981	4496	1/8/14	Printed Both Houses	Guarantees teachers who retired prior to 1990 an additional pension of \$550 per year for each year of full-time credited service	Abbate; Russell; Steck; Millman; Thiele	Libous	\$0	\$1	Annual contribution of \$830,000 required
5324	None	1/8/14	Referred to Committee	Allows members of Tiers III and IV one month of additional service credit for each year of service after 10 years credit in NYSERS, NYSTRS, NYCERS, and NYCTRS	Abbate; Englebright; Colton; Cusick; Hooper; Perry; Sweeney; Weisenberg		\$374+	?	One-time costs of \$374 million for NYSERS; costs not estimated for other systems
6793	3785	1/8/14	Passed in Senate; Reported to Ways and Means in Assembly	Adds presumption that police officers and firefighters who contract MRSA or STAPH/MRSA did so during the performance of duties; entitles them to 75% disability retirement	Abbate	Libous	?	?	Fiscal note estimates costs will be negligible
7142	1927	1/8/14	Referred to Committee	Adds presumption of on-the-job injury for impairments caused by diseases of the heart for Deputy Sheriff members of the NYCERS; entitles them to 75% disability pension	Abbate; Miller	Addabbo	\$0	?	No fiscal note provided
7573	None	1/8/14	Printed	Covers warrant and transfer officers and senior warrant and transfer officers in the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision in the 25-year retirement plan as uniformed personnel	Abbate		\$0.6	\$0	In addition to past service costs of \$463,000 requires \$119,000 in annual contributions
7862	5644	1/8/14	Vetoed	Allows SUNY police officers to transfer from the civilian pension fund to the NYSLPFRS to be covered by 25 year half-pay retirement benefits	Abbate; Fahy	Robach	\$11.6	\$0	In addition to past service costs of \$10.2 million, requires \$1.4 million in annual contributions
8160	5153	1/8/14	Vetoed	Increases the disability pensions for Suffolk County Probation Officers from one-third of final average salary to one-half	Sweeney	Flanagan	\$0	\$1	In addition to past service costs of \$1 million, requires \$218,000 in annual contributions with further future contributions to vary
8471	2069	1/8/14	Referred to Committee in Senate; Reported to Ways and Mean in Assembly	Allows four hours of excused leave for public employees and officers to undertake screening for cervical cancer	Rosenthal; Colton; Cahill; Crespo; Robert; Gunther; Clark; Rosa; Cook; Heastie; Perry	Hannon	?	?	No fiscal note provided
9030	None	3/10/14	Referred to Committee	Adds a presumption that corrections officers and security hospital treatment assistants who contract lung ailments did so during the performance of duties; entitles them to 75% disability pension	Abbate		\$1.8	\$0	Annual costs of \$1.8 million
9051	6810	3/11/14	Signed and Chaptered	Provides 75% disability pensions for ambulance medical technicians, medical technician supervisors, and medical technician coordinators of Nassau county	Abbate	Martins	\$0	\$0.2	Annual costs of \$170,000
9162	7716	3/24/14	Vetoed	Allows Tier III and V police and firefighters to join an optional 20-year retirement plan without any employee contributions	Abbate		?	?	Costs to PFRS but fiscal note does not specify
9392	7120	4/25/14	Signed and Chaptered	Provides automatic enrollment in optional 20-year retirement plan for NYSFPFRS members hired on or after January 1, 2015; members would also be allowed to subsequently withdraw from such plan	Abbate	Golden	\$0	\$0	Actuary found no cost since members may currently enroll within the first year of employment
9594	7326	5/12/14	Advanced to Third Reading in Senate; Referred to Committee in Assembly	Conforms Ordinary Disability Retirement (ODR) and Accidental Disability Retirement (ADR) benefits for New York City Tier III police members to benefits provided to Tier I and II police members. Enhanced benefits for Tier III police include: 1) more generous formulas for calculating pensions - the formula for ODR benefits would be 1/40 of Final Average Salary (FAS) multiplied by years of service, but not less than one-half of FAS if years of service are more than 10 and not less one-third of FAS if years of service are less than 10, and the formula for ADR benefits would be 75% of FAS; 2) more generous calculation of FAS, to be based on one year; 3) two additional payments - an actuarial equivalent annuity of accumulated member contributions and an actuarial equivalent annuity for the "Increased-Take-Home-Pay" provision, which reduces Tier I and II employee contributions but does not currently apply to Tier III; 4) new eligibility for presumptive conditions to qualify for an ODR or ADR; and 5) no minimum length of service requirement for eligibility. Cost-of-living-adjustments would also conform to less generous adjustments for Tier I and II members, equal to half the rate of inflation and applicable to the first \$18,000 in income after five years. Tier III members with disability pensions currently receive cost-of-living-adjustments immediately at the lesser of 3% or inflation on the full benefit.	Abbate	Golden; Avella	\$0	\$35	Annual contribution required of \$34.9 million in fiscal year 2015, growing to \$71.5 million in fiscal year 2019. The increase in the Actuarial Present Value of benefits would be \$617.9 million in fiscal year 2019. In the fiscal note, the Office of the Actuary expresses concerns with the administration of certain provisions, including the Increased-Take-Home-Pay annuity.
None	6785	3/11/14	Referred to Committee	Entitles retirees to pension COLAs for retirees of New York State and New York City at age 55 instead of 62		Golden	?	?	No fiscal note provided

**TOTAL: \$1,699 \$116** (dollars in millions)

Last Updated: December 18, 2014