

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 770 Session of
2007

INTRODUCED BY ORIE AND FOLMER, APRIL 20, 2007

REFERRED TO FINANCE, APRIL 20, 2007

AN ACT

1 Amending Titles 24 (Education) and 71 (State Government) of the
2 Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, providing for referendum
3 on public pension increases.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. Title 24 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated
7 Statutes is amended by adding a section to read:

8 § 8536. Referenda on benefit increases required.

9 (a) Requirement of referendum.--No increase in benefits,
10 other than a supplemental annuity to reflect an increase in cost
11 of living, shall be effective until the increase in benefits has
12 been approved by the electorate.

13 (b) Notification.--Upon the passage by the General Assembly
14 of a proposed increase in benefits, the Secretary of the
15 Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to comply with the
16 advertising requirements of section 1 of Article XI of the
17 Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the required
18 advertisements to two newspapers in every county in which such

newspapers are published in sufficient time after passage of the proposed increase in benefits. The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall submit the proposed increase in benefits to the qualified electors of this Commonwealth at the first primary, general or municipal election occurring at least three months after the legislation is passed by the General Assembly.

(c) Referendum question.--The referendum question shall be in the following form:

Do you favor changing the benefits under the Public School Employees' Retirement System to provide for
?

(d) Nonlegal interpretative statement.--The Department of State shall draft a nonlegal interpretative statement which shall accompany the referendum question in accordance with section 201.1 of the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code.

(e) Certification of results.--The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall certify the results of the referendum in accordance with the Pennsylvania Election Code.

(f) Referendum approval.--Approval of the referendum required under this section shall be by majority vote of the electors voting on the question.

Section 2. Title 71 is amended by adding a section to read:
§ 5711. Referenda on benefit increases required.

(a) Requirement of referendum.--No increase in benefits, other than a supplemental annuity to reflect an increase in cost of living, shall be effective until the increase in benefits has been approved by the electorate.

(b) Notification.--Upon the passage by the General Assembly of a proposed increase in benefits, the Secretary of the

Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to comply with the advertising requirements of section 1 of Article XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the required advertisements to two newspapers in every county in which such newspapers are published in sufficient time after passage of the proposed increase in benefits. The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall submit the proposed increase in benefits to the qualified electors of this Commonwealth at the first primary, general or municipal election occurring at least three months after the legislation is passed by the General Assembly.

(c) Referendum question.--The referendum question shall be in the following form:

Do you favor changing the benefits under the State Employees' Retirement System to provide for _____ ?

(d) Nonlegal interpretative statement.--The Department of State shall draft a nonlegal interpretative statement which shall accompany the referendum question in accordance with section 201.1 of the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code.

(e) Certification of results.--The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall certify the results of the referendum in accordance with the Pennsylvania Election Code.

(f) Referendum approval.--Approval of the referendum required under this section shall be by majority vote of the electors voting on the question.

Section 3. This act shall take effect immediately.