
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 564 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY SCHWANK, FONTANA, BREWSTER, WOZNIAK, VANCE, COSTA,
YUDICHAK, WILEY AND BLAKE, MARCH 11, 2015

REFERRED TO FINANCE, MARCH 11, 2015

AN ACT

1 Establishing the Public Pensions Review Commission; providing
2 for duties; and making an appropriation.

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

5 Section 1. Short title.

6 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Public
7 Pensions Review Commission Act.

8 Section 2. Definitions.

9 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
10 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
11 context clearly indicates otherwise:

12 "Commission." The Public Pensions Review Commission
13 established under section 3(a).

14 Section 3. Public Pensions Review Commission.

15 (a) Establishment.--The Public Pensions Review Commission is
16 established.

17 (b) Duties of commission.--The commission shall:

18 (1) examine the Public School Employees' Retirement

1 System and the State Employees' Retirement System and the
2 condition of both systems and recommend statutory or
3 regulatory changes or both needed or desirable to achieve or
4 maintain a long-term, sound, stable public pension structure
5 for State and local governments;

6 (2) issue a final report that is based on the
7 examination under paragraph (1) no later than six months
8 after the commission is seated; and

9 (3) include specific recommendations and reasons for
10 changes in a final report.

11 (c) Composition.--The commission shall be composed of the
12 following:

13 (1) The Governor or a designee.

14 (2) The Secretary of Revenue or a designee.

15 (3) The Secretary of the Budget or a designee.

16 (4) The Secretary of Administration or a designee.

17 (5) The Majority Leader of the Senate or a designee.

18 (6) The Minority Leader of the Senate or a designee.

19 (7) The Majority Leader of the House of Representatives
20 or a designee.

21 (8) The Minority Leader of the House of Representatives
22 or a designee.

23 (9) The Director of the Administrative Office of
24 Pennsylvania Courts or a designee.

25 (10) The Chancellor of the State System of Higher
26 Education or a designee.

27 (11) The President of The Pennsylvania State University
28 or a designee.

29 (12) The Chancellor of the University of Pittsburgh or a
30 designee.

1 (13) The President of Temple University or a designee.

2 (14) The President of Lincoln University or a designee.

3 (15) The Executive Director of the Pennsylvania League
4 of Municipalities or a designee.

5 (16) The Executive Director of the County Commissioners
6 Association of Pennsylvania or a designee.

7 (17) The Executive Director of the Pennsylvania State
8 Association of Township Supervisors or a designee.

9 (18) The Executive Director of the Pennsylvania State
10 Association of Boroughs or a designee.

11 (19) The Executive Director of the Pennsylvania School
12 Boards Association or a designee.

13 (20) Three representatives of public employee unions.

14 (21) Three public members who possess expertise in
15 issues relating to public pensions. Each of the following
16 shall appoint one public member:

17 (i) The Governor.

18 (ii) The President pro tempore of the Senate.

19 (iii) The Speaker of the House of Representatives.

20 (d) Appointments.--An appointment under subsection (c) (20)
21 or (21) shall be made within 30 days of enactment.

22 (e) Vacancies.--A committee vacancy on account of a vacancy
23 in an office under subsection (c) (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6),
24 (7), (8), (9), (10), (11), (12), (13), (14), (15), (16), (17),
25 (18) or (19) shall be filled by an acting officer.

26 (f) Quorum.--A majority of appointed members shall
27 constitute a quorum for the purposes of conducting business.

28 (g) Transparency and ethics.--The commission shall be
29 subject to the following laws:

30 (1) The act of February 14, 2008 (P.L.6, No.3), known as

1 the Right-to-Know Law.

2 (2) 65 Pa.C.S. Chs. 7 (relating to open meetings) and 11
3 (relating to ethics standards and financial disclosure).

4 (3) The act of July 19, 1957 (P.L.1017, No.451), known
5 as the State Adverse Interest Act.

6 (h) Transparency and ethics.--The commission may conduct
7 hearings and otherwise gather pertinent information and analysis
8 that it considers appropriate.

9 (i) Logistical and other support.--The commission shall
10 receive logistical and other support from the Joint State
11 Government Commission and may employ additional temporary staff
12 as needed.

13 (j) Reimbursement.--The members of the commission shall be
14 reimbursed for reasonable expenses.

15 Section 4. Appropriation.

16 The sum of \$1,000,000 is hereby appropriated to the
17 commission for the commission's operations under this act.

18 Section 5. Effective date.

19 This act shall take effect in 60 days.