

**Pension and Health Benefits Review Commission**  
**Vote Results**  
**April 11, 2014**

**A-216 (Gusciora)**

Requires spousal consent to election of certain pension payout options under TPAF, JRS and PERS.

**Motion:** Recommend not to enact.

**Discussion:** Spousal notification procedures when members elect a pension distribution which leaves nothing to a beneficiary upon the death of a retiree are already in place. Instituting modifications to the current spousal notification requirement pursuant to this bill would needlessly deplete plan assets. The written spousal consent required detracts from the administrative efficiencies currently experienced from filing for retirement electronically. Finally, the bill provides no remedy for delayed retirement processing that will occur if spousal consent cannot be obtained, no response time by the spouse, no procedure to add the spouse, and no process for the state employee to appeal.

**A-1131 (O'Scanlon)**

Prohibits certain public officers and employees from receiving dual health care benefit coverage.

**Motion:** Recommend not to enact.

**Discussion:** The Commission supports expanding the provision in P.L. 2010 c.2 prohibiting dual health care coverage for SHBP/SEHBP participants to all local government and local school board employees. However, the bill does not prohibit a payment of a cash incentive to waive the dual coverage as found in A-2078, which was also considered by the Commission at the 4/11/14 meeting. Additionally, the bill's effective date should be extended to the beginning of the next contract period.

**A-2078 (Brown/Ciattarelli)**

Requires person eligible for health care benefits from more than one public entity to choose coverage from only one.

**Motion:** Recommend to enact.

**Discussion:** The Commission supports this bill because it will reduce public employer benefit costs. The bill should be amended to extend its effective date to the beginning of the next contract period.

**A-2499 (McGuckin/Wolfe)**

Limits upfront costs for oral anticancer medications for persons covered under certain health benefits plans.

**Motion:** Tabled.

**Discussion:** To be discussed at the next Pension and Health Benefits Commission meeting on June 6, 2014. Additional information has been requested regarding:

1) higher public employer costs, 2) the authority of the Plan Design committees created by P.L. 2011 c.78,  
3) mandating new coverage, and 4) the expansion of P.L. 2011, c.188.

**A-2663 (Wolfe)**

Allows TPAF retiree to be employed as certificated superintendent or administrator for limited time frame due to critical need without TPAF reenrollment.

**Motion:** Recommend not to enact.

**Discussion:** This bill's enactment would continue to allow the depletion of pension fund assets by allowing a certain class of plan participants to collect their pensions while working in a public position, but not contributing to the pension fund. The bill promotes the practice of double dipping (collecting a public pension and public salary simultaneously.).