



## — Senate Committee on Labor and Industry —

Senator Kim L. Ward  
*Chairman*

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### Senate Bill 538 Printer's No. 652

Prime Sponsor: Wagner  
Committee: Labor and Industry

#### **SYNOPSIS:**

Amends Title 24 (Education) and Title 71 (State Government) of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes, in retirement for school employees, and providing for benefits for state employees.

#### **SUMMARY:**

Title 24 amendments:

- Provides for and defines “athletic leave of absence” for purposes of guaranteeing that time missed due to an athletic leave of absence is calculated for pension purposes for public school employees.

Title 71 amendments:

- Provides for athletic leaves of absence for state employees who qualify as a member of a United States team.
- Defines “member of a United States team” as any group leader, coach, official, referee or athlete who comprises the official delegation of the United States on the world championship team, Pan American team or Olympic team in a sport sanctioned by the International Olympic Committee.
- Provides that the leave of absence may be used to prepare for or engage in the competition but shall not exceed the period of the official training and competition or 90 calendar days a year, whichever is less.
- Provides that the employee shall receive his or her regular salary during the athletic leave of absence and shall be considered in regular full-time daily attendance for the purpose of determining length of service and the right to receive increments, as provided by law.

- Provides for continued membership in SERS with continued employer and employee contributions during the athletic leave of absence.

Effective Date: 60 days

**BILL HISTORY:**

Introduced 4-6-2017

Prepared by: Kratz 10/12/2017