

L. 1955, c. 37, §4 as amended by L. 1956, c. 145, §1 (N.J.S.A. 18:13-112.6) provides that the membership of the retirement system shall consist, among others, of "any person becoming a teacher on or after the effective date of this act . . .". In Formal Opinion No. 18 (1957) we construed similar language contained in the Public Employees' Retirement-Social Security Integration Act (L. 1954, c. 84, §7 as amended) to mean that membership in the retirement system was compulsory upon commencement of employment. We reiterate that opinion with respect to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18:13-112.6.

Therefore, since contributory insurance coverage of a new member is required from the date of membership in the retirement system and such membership commences upon the date of employment, the contributory insurance coverage provided for in N.J.S.A. 18:13-112.55 becomes effective with respect to a new member of the retirement system on the date of such person's commencement of employment.

Very truly yours,

DAVID D. FURMAN  
*Attorney General*

By: JUNE STRELECKI  
*Deputy Attorney General*

AUGUST 26, 1959

HONORABLE NED J. PARSEKIAN  
*Acting Director*  
*Division of Motor Vehicles*  
Trenton, New Jersey

MEMORANDUM OPINION 1959—P-18

DEAR DIRECTOR:

You have sought my opinion as to whether you are authorized to charge a fee of \$10.00 to members of the medical profession who apply for registration plates with the identifying letters MD. The applicable statute is Chapter 56 of the Laws of 1959, which provides:

"The Director of the Division of Motor Vehicles is hereby authorized to issue upon application, registration plates of a particular identifying mark or marks to be displayed as provided in section 39:3-33 of the Revised Statutes, composed of such combination of letters and figures, in accordance with the identification system as may be requested in such application provided that the particular identifying mark so requested is not then issued to and held by some other person or otherwise reserved by the director.

"The director is authorized to charge an additional fee for the issuance of such particular identifying mark in such amount as he may fix from time to time but not in excess of \$10.00, and the amount of such fee shall accompany the application."

I understand that pursuant to the authority of this section you have fixed a fee of \$10.00 for the issuance of registration plates with a particular identifying mark or marks. Having determined upon such additional fee, you have no authority to eliminate or reduce the fee for any group of private citizens, including members of the medical profession. The Legislature has failed to provide any special exception for medical doctors, nor is there any discretion vested in you by Chapter 56 of the Laws of 1959 to deviate from the regular fee in favor of medical doctors or any other group who apply for registration plates of a particular identifying mark or marks.

Yours very truly,

DAVID D. FURMAN  
*Attorney General*

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August 26, 1959

STATE BOARD OF ARCHITECTS  
1100 Raymond Boulevard  
Newark, New Jersey

MEMORANDUM OPINION 1959—P-19

GENTLEMEN:

In reviewing opinion requests I find that no formal answer has been rendered to your inquiry of April 30, 1958 concerning the eligibility of corporations to practice the profession of architecture within this State. The pertinent statutes are explicit. Only licensed persons may enter the practice of architecture in this State. Applicants for an architect's license must establish educational and other qualifications and pass successfully regularly conducted examinations, according to R.S. 45:3-5. Such provisions are applicable only to natural persons, not to corporations.

The board may continue to permit the name of a corporation, association or partnership to appear on plans, specifications or other drawings but subject to the requirement that the licensed architect's or architects' names appear in the title block, both for the protection of the public and the proper supervision of the profession of architecture.

Yours very truly,

DAVID D. FURMAN  
*Attorney General*