(2)   (I)   THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT SHALL PROVIDE ANY INFORMATION THE COMMISSION MAY REQUIRE WITH REGARD TO HEALTH CARE BENEFITS AND HEALTH BENEFIT COSTS FOR STATE EMPLOYEES AND RETIREES.

(II)   IF THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT IS UNABLE TO PROVIDE THE INFORMATION REQUESTED BY THE COMMISSION UNDER SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE COMMISSION MAY CONTRACT WITH AN INDEPENDENT HEALTH CARE CONSULTING FIRM FOR ASSISTANCE.

(3)   (I)   THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT SHALL PROVIDE THE FUNDING FOR THE COMMISSION TO HIRE ~~AN~~ MORE THAN ONE ACTUARIAL CONSULTING FIRM AND A HEALTH CARE CONSULTING FIRM.

(II)   1.   THE COMMISSION MAY REQUEST UP TO TWO ACTUARIAL VALUATIONS ANNUALLY.

2.   IF THE COMMISSION REQUESTS TWO ACTUARIAL VALUATIONS IN THE SAME YEAR, EACH SHALL BE PERFORMED BY A DIFFERENT ACTUARIAL CONSULTING FIRM.

(G)   ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2008, THE COMMISSION SHALL ISSUE A FINAL REPORT OF ITS FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE GOVERNOR AND, IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 2–1246 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, notwithstanding § 7–310 of the State Finance and Procurement Article or any other provision of law, for fiscal 2007 only, and only as provided in the budget bill, funds may be transferred to the Dedicated Purpose Account to help defray future State costs associated with benefits provided to retirees.

SECTION ~~2.~~ 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2006. It shall remain effective for a period of 3 years and, at the end of June 30, 2009, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Approved May 16, 2006.

CHAPTER 434

(Senate Bill 458)

AN ACT concerning

Teacher Quality Act of 2006

FOR the purpose of establishing the National Board Certified Teacher Pilot Program in the State Department of Education; requiring an eligible school to have at least a certain number of teachers who have agreed to pursue certification by