

1 **State of Arkansas**  
2 **78th General Assembly**  
3 **Regular Session, 1991**  
4 **By: Representative Mullenix**

# A Bill

**HOUSE BILL**

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 24, CHAPTER 11, SUBCHAPTER 8 OF THE  
9 ARKANSAS CODE OF 1987, TO INCREASE THE MINIMUM BENEFIT  
10 PAYABLE TO SURVIVING SPOUSES AND CHILDREN OF MEMBERS AND  
11 RETIRANTS OF THE FIREMEN'S PENSION AND RELIEF FUND; AND  
12 FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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16 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code §24-11-820(a)(2) is hereby amended to read as  
17 follows:

18 "(2) In the case of full-paid fire fighters classifications, a monthly  
19 pension shall be paid for life to the spouse in the amount of the pension  
20 received by the retired fire fighter at the time of his death, or the amount  
21 of the pension to which the member would have been entitled on the day he  
22 died, had he been retired, but in no event shall the benefit of the spouse be  
23 less than four hundred dollars (\$400) per month, regardless of whether the  
24 spouse has already been receiving pension payments and regardless of whether  
25 the fire fighter was on active duty or retired."

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27 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code §24-11-820(b)(1) is hereby amended to read as  
28 follows:

29 "(b)(1) In addition to the monthly pension provided in subsection (a)  
30 of this section, the board of trustees may order and direct the payment of, in  
31 the case of volunteer or part-paid fire fighters, the sum of twenty-five  
32 dollars (\$25.00) per month for each child under nineteen (19) years of age who  
33 has not completed high school and, in the case of full-paid fire fighters, the  
34 sum of two hundred dollars (\$200) per month for each child under nineteen (19)  
35 years of age who has not completed high school."

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SECTION 3. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

SECTION 4. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are declared to be severable.

SECTION 5. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are hereby repealed.

SECTION 6. EMERGENCY. It is hereby found and determined by the Seventy-Eighth General Assembly that the effectiveness of this act on July 1, 1991, is essential to provide increased benefits on a day certain for beneficiaries under the system and that in the event of an extension of the Regular Session, the delay in the effective date of this act beyond July 1, 1991, could work irreparable harm upon the proper administration and provision of essential governmental programs. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this act being necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety shall be in full force and effect from and after July 1, 1991.