

"AN ACT TO PROVIDE RETIREMENT BENEFITS TO SURVIVING SPOUSES ON THE DEATH OF ELIGIBLE MAYORS AND RETIRED MAYORS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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

SECTION 1. In all cities of the first class in this State, any person who shall serve as mayor of such city for a period of not less than ten (10) years, upon reaching age sixty (60) or any person who shall serve as mayor of said city for a period of not less than twenty (20) years without regard to age, shall be entitled to retire at an annual retirement benefit during the remainder of his natural life, payable at the rate of one-half of the salary payable to such mayor at the time of his retirement. Such retirement payments shall be paid monthly and shall be paid from the city general fund. Provided, however, mayors who have served as an alderman or city employee prior to or after their service as mayor shall count such service as alderman or city employee at the rate of one (1) year for mayor's retirement, for each two (2) years served as an alderman or a city employee with a maximum of an additional two (2) years credit towards mayor's retirement. The minimum retirement benefits shall be \$250.00 per month for both salaried and non-salaried mayors.

SECTION 2. On the death of any mayor retired under the provisions of Section 1 hereof or any other acts of the General Assembly or any mayor who dies in office after becoming eligible to retire under Section 1 of this Act or any other acts of the General Assembly, the spouse of such mayor (married to the mayor for ten (10) years or longer) may, at the option of the governing body of the city, receive one-half of the retirement benefit the retired mayor was receiving or one-half the retirement benefit the mayor who died in office was entitled to receive, provided, however, upon remarriage of the spouse, the benefits shall cease. The provisions of this section are retroactive to November 1, 1983 at the sole discretion of the governing body of the city.

SECTION 3. Any mayor retired prior to the effective date of this Act and receiving benefits under prior acts of the General Assembly shall be entitled to continue receiving benefits under the prior acts.

SECTION 4. Act 305 of 1985, the same being Ark. Stat. 19-1038 - 19-1040, is hereby repealed.

APPROVED: 3/26/87
