

State of Arkansas

77th General Assembly

Regular Session, 1989

H.C.R.

1035

By: Representative Barclay

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE JOINT INTERIM COMMITTEE ON CITY, COUNTY AND LOCAL AFFAIRS TO CONDUCT A STUDY TO DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF REQUIRING MUNICIPALITIES TO OFFER HEALTH INSURANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS AND POLICEMEN UPON THEIR RETIREMENT.

WHEREAS, it is becoming increasingly more difficult to obtain health care coverage at affordable rates; and

WHEREAS, firefighters and policemen daily risk their health and well-being for the safety of their community; and

WHEREAS, there is a trend nationally to extend health care insurance coverage past retirement so affordable coverage can be retained through a group insurance plan until Medicare coverage becomes available to the retirant; and

WHEREAS, the availability of such coverage would increase the likelihood of retirement for those firefighters and policemen experiencing health problems which interfere with the full performance of their duties; and

WHEREAS, it is desirable to study the feasibility and affordability of offering the same health care coverage to retirants and their dependents at the same rate as current employees; and

WHEREAS, the Joint Interim Committee on City, County and Local Affairs is the proper legislative committee to conduct the study with the technical assistance and advice of such interested groups and organizations as the municipal league, firefighter associations, police associations and insurance company representatives;

NOW THEREFORE,

IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SEVENTY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

That as soon as possible after the adjournment of this General Assembly, the Joint Interim Committee on City, County and Local Affairs commence a study with the technical assistance and advice from the municipal league, firefighter associations, police associations and insurance industry representatives to determine the affordability and feasibility of requiring continued health care insurance coverage for firefighters and policemen upon their retirement and offering coverage for their dependents at costs to the retirants.