State of Arkansas 1 As Engrossed: S2/8/99 H3/15/99 A Bill 2 82nd General Assembly 3 Regular Session, 1999 SENATE BILL 262 4 5 By: Senator Argue 6 7 For An Act To Be Entitled 8 "AN ACT TO CLARIFY THE TERM 'WORKING DAY' AS IT 9 APPLIES TO THE AMOUNT OF SICK LEAVE GRANTED TO 10 MUNICIPAL FIRE FIGHTERS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES." 11 12 Subtitle 13 "TO CLARIFY THE LAW GRANTING SICK LEAVE 14 TO MUNICIPAL FIRE FIGHTERS." 15 16 17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS: 18 19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 14-53-108 is amended to read as follows: "14-53-108. Uniform sick leave. 20 (a)(1) From and after April 11, 1969, all fire fighters employed by 21 22 cities of the first and second class shall accumulate sick leave at the rate of twenty (20) twelve (12) working days per year beginning one (1) year after 23 24 the date of employment. As used in this section, 'working day' means that period of time a fire fighter is on duty within a twenty-four (24) hour 25 26 peri od. (2) If unused, sick leave shall accumulate to a maximum of sixty 27 (60) working days unless the city, by ordinance, authorizes the accumulation 28 29 of a greater amount, in no event to exceed a maximum accumulation of ninety (90) working days, except for the purpose of computing years of service for 30 31 retirement purposes. (b)(1) In cities having sick leave provisions through ordinance, the 32 total sick leave accumulated by the individual fire fighter shall be credited 33 to him and new days accumulated under the provisions of this section until the 34 maximum prescribed in subsection (a) of this section is reached. 35 36 Time off may be charged against accumulated sick leave only (2)

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for the days that a fire fighter is scheduled to work. No sick leave as provided in this section shall be charged against any fire fighter during any period of sickness, illness, or injury for any days which the fire fighter is not scheduled to work.

- (c)(1) If, at the end of his term of service, upon retirement or death, whichever occurs first, any fire fighter has unused accumulated sick leave, he shall be paid for this sick leave at the regular rate of pay in effect at the time of retirement or death.
- (2) Payment for unused sick leave in the case of a fire fighter, upon retirement or death, shall not exceed three (3) months' salary unless the city, by ordinance, authorizes a greater amount, but in no event to exceed four and one-half (41/2) months' salary.
- (d) Cities of the first class, cities of the second class, and incorporated towns shall have the option of providing sick leave for fire fighters to accumulate at a rate of fifteen (15) working days per year beginning with the date of employment and decreasing to twelve (12) working days beginning four (4) years after employment. Unused sick leave shall accumulate to fire fighters provided with fifteen (15) and twelve (12) working days per year sick leave to a maximum of one hundred (100) working days."

SECTION 2. 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 3. 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 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are hereby repealed.

/s/ Argue