

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 83rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2001

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1014

4
5 By: Representative Milum
6 By: Senator Faris

For An Act To Be Entitled

7
8
9
10 AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 24-11-820 TO PROVIDE THE
11 SPOUSES OF RETIRED FIREFIGHTERS WITH A PENSION BENEFIT
12 AFTER THE DEATH OF THE RETIREE; AND FOR OTHER
13 PURPOSES.

Subtitle

14
15
16 TO PROVIDE THE SPOUSES OF RETIRED
17 FIREFIGHTERS WITH A PENSION BENEFIT
18 AFTER THE DEATH OF THE RETIREE.

19
20
21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

22
23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 24-11-820(b) is amended to read as follows:

24 (b)(1)(A) In addition to the monthly pension provided in subsection (a)
25 of this section, the board of trustees may order and direct the payment of, in
26 the case of volunteer or part-paid fire fighters, the sum of twenty-five
27 dollars (\$25.00) per month for each child under nineteen (19) years of age who
28 has not completed high school and, in the case of full-paid fire fighters, the
29 sum of one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125) per month for each child under
30 nineteen (19) years of age who has not completed high school.

31 (B) However, if the child enrolls in an institution of
32 higher education after completing high school, the payments shall continue as
33 long as the child is a full-time student, but in no instance beyond the
34 child's twenty-third birthday.

35 (2)(A) If there is no eligible spouse at the time of the member's
36 death, then the total sums shall be paid to his children until they shall have

1 reached nineteen (19) years of age or until the children have completed high
2 school, whichever occurs first.

3 (B) However, if a child enrolls in an institution of higher
4 education after completing high school, the payments shall continue as long as
5 the child is a full-time student, but in no instance beyond the child's
6 twenty-third birthday.

7 (3) The sum total of the pension to be paid the spouse or the
8 qualifying children of volunteer or part-paid fire fighters shall not exceed
9 one-half (1/2) of the salary attached to the rank the member held at the time
10 of his death as an active member of a volunteer or part-paid fire department,
11 nor shall it be less than thirty dollars (\$30.00) per month.

12 (4) If any spouse or child shall marry, then the person so
13 marrying shall thereafter receive no further pension from the funds provided
14 for the operations of this act.

15 (5) If any retired fire fighter shall marry after his retirement,
16 the surviving spouse, or that spouse's children, shall not shall receive
17 benefits from the funds if the surviving spouse has been married to the fire
18 fighter for a period of at least five (5) years, and if the board of trustees
19 for the fund decides to extend this benefit for its members, and if the fund
20 will be actuarially sound as determined by the actuary for the Arkansas Fire
21 and Police Pension Review Board after the benefit is extended.

22
23 SECTION 2. [THE ARKANSAS CODE REVISION COMMISSION IS NOT REQUIRED TO
24 CODIFY THIS SECTION.] No benefit enhancement provided for by this act shall be
25 implemented if it would cause the publicly supported retirement system's
26 unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities to exceed a thirty (30) year
27 amortization. No benefit enhancement provided for by this act shall be
28 implemented by any publicly supported system which has unfunded actuarial
29 accrued liabilities being amortized over a period exceeding thirty (30) years
30 until the unfunded actuarial accrued liability is reduced to a level less than
31 the standards prescribed by Arkansas Code, Title 24.