

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to 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 1262

4
5 By: Representative R. Smith
6
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE TITLE 24, CHAPTER 11,
10 SUBCHAPTERS 4 AND 8, TO ADD NEW SECTIONS TO PROVIDE
11 COST-OF-LIVING ADJUSTMENTS FOR RETIRANTS AND
12 BENEFICIARIES OF THE LOCAL POLICE AND FIRE PENSION AND
13 RELIEF FUNDS; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER
14 PURPOSES.

Subtitle

15
16 TO PROVIDE FOR COST-OF-LIVING
17 ADJUSTMENTS FOR RETIRANTS AND
18 BENEFICIARIES OF THE LOCAL POLICE AND
19 FIRE PENSION AND RELIEF FUNDS.
20
21
22

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

24
25 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 24, Chapter 11, Subchapter 4 is amended
26 by adding the following section:

27 24-11-439. Cost of living adjustments for policemen's pension and
28 relief funds.

29 (a) On and after July 1, 2001, beginning with the July 1 which is at
30 least twelve (12) months after the effective date of a monthly benefit, the
31 amount of the benefits for each retiree or beneficiary of the policemen's
32 pension and relief fund shall be redetermined effective each July 1, and the
33 redetermined amount shall be payable for the ensuing year.

34 (b) The redetermined amount shall be the amount of the benefit payable
35 as of the immediately preceding June 30, increased by three percent (3%).
36

1 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 24, Chapter 11, Subchapter 8, regarding
 2 fire pension and relief funds, is amended by adding the following section:
 3 24-11-834. Cost of living adjustments for firemen's pension and relief
 4 funds.

5 (a) On and after July 1, 2001, beginning with the July 1 which is at
 6 least twelve (12) months after the effective date of a monthly benefit, the
 7 amount of the benefits for each retiree or beneficiary of the firemen's
 8 pension and relief fund shall be redetermined effective each July 1, and the
 9 redetermined amount shall be payable for the ensuing year.

10 (b) The redetermined amount shall be the amount of the benefit payable
 11 as of the immediately preceding June 30, increased by three percent (3%).

12
 13 SECTION 3. [THE ARKANSAS CODE REVISION COMMISSION IS NOT REQUIRED TO
 14 CODIFY THIS SECTION.] No benefit enhancement provided for by this act shall
 15 be implemented if it would cause the publicly supported retirement system's
 16 unfunded actuarial accrued liabilities to exceed a thirty (30) year
 17 amortization. No benefit enhancement provided for by this act shall be
 18 implemented by any publicly supported system which has unfunded actuarial
 19 accrued liabilities being amortized over a period exceeding thirty (30) years
 20 until the unfunded actuarial accrued liability is reduced to a level less than
 21 the standards prescribed by Arkansas Code, Title 24.

22
 23 SECTION 4. Emergency. It is found and determined by the Eighty-Third
 24 General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that police officers and
 25 firefighters offer police and fire protection services to the citizens of the
 26 State of Arkansas; that a retirement benefit is one of the primary means of
 27 compensating these brave and selfless public servants for their services to
 28 their local communities; that increasing the annuity rate for members of
 29 police and fire pension and relief funds will reduce the impact of inflation
 30 on their benefits and thereby is extremely important in repaying them for
 31 their services; that police and fire pension and relief funds do not currently
 32 provide annual cost-of-living increases, and it is therefore necessary to
 33 provide this benefit change and that it is administratively necessary to
 34 authorize the implementation of this benefit change at the beginning of the
 35 state's fiscal year. Therefore an emergency is declared to exist and this act
 36 being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health

1 and safety shall become effective on July 1, 2001.

- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10
- 11
- 12
- 13
- 14
- 15
- 16
- 17
- 18
- 19
- 20
- 21
- 22
- 23
- 24
- 25
- 26
- 27
- 28
- 29
- 30
- 31
- 32
- 33
- 34
- 35
- 36