By Representatives Crist, Miller, Littlefield, Ogles, Byrd, Murman, Bradley and Culp

A bill to be entitled
An act relating to Hillsborough County;
amending chapter 96-519, Laws of Florida,
relating to the Civil Service Act; amending and
adding definitions; providing guidelines for
the adoption of a salary schedule; providing an
effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 5 of chapter 96-519, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

Section 5. Definitions.--As used in this act, the term:

- (1) "Appointing authority" means any person or agency authorized under this act or other statutory authority to employ personnel to carry out the responsibilities of the agency.
- (2) "Appointment" means selection by an appointing authority of a certified eligible person to perform assigned duties and responsibilities in a specified position in the classified service.
- (3) "Benefits plan" means a schedule of employment benefits to include all leave and holidays.
- (4) "Board" means the Hillsborough County Civil Service Board.
- (5) "Budget authority" means any agency or authority to which this act applies and which is empowered to develop and adopt its budget without approval of any other agency or authority.

 $\underline{(6)}$ "Certification" means the process of providing the names of those eligible for a class of positions to be considered in filling a vacancy.

(7) "Civil Service" means that part of the employment system within Hillsborough County to which this act is applicable pursuant to section 4.

(8) (7) "Classified employee" means an employee whose position is subject to the rights contained in this act and in rules adopted by the board.

(9)(8) "Class of positions/classifications" means all positions that are sufficiently similar as to kind or subject matter of work, level of difficulty or responsibilities, and qualification requirements of the work to warrant the same treatment as to title, pay range, and other personnel transactions.

(10)(9) "Classification plan" means a document that formally describes the concepts, rules, and class specifications used in the classification and reclassification of positions in the classified service.

 $\underline{(11)}$ "Demotion" means moving an employee from a position in one class to a position in another class having a lesser degree of responsibility and lower pay grade.

(12)(11) "Dismissal" means the discharge of an employee from the service by the appointing authority.

 $\underline{(13)(12)}$ "Executive manager" means a position so designated by any appointing authority. The identifying characteristics of an executive manager position are:

(a) Having primary responsibility for the administration of a department or division that is major in scope in terms of a countywide program except as may be limited by municipal programs or and

- (b) Being entrusted with developmental or confidential information and high level responsibility for:
- 1. Program research, development, implementation, and monitorship;
 - 2. Formulation of policies; or
- 3. Day-to-day operations, administration, and departmental or divisional decisionmaking.

(14)(13) "Exempt employee" may be used interchangeably with an "unclassified employee" and means an employee whose position is subject to any rights provided by the employee's appointing authority and who is enumerated in section 6(2).

(15)(14) "Initial probationary period" means a period of 6 months of conditional employment in the same position, which may be extended for an additional 6 months during which time an employee may be dismissed without appeal to the board.

(16)(15) "Leave" means absence of a classified employee from employment authorized by the appointing authority in accordance with rules adopted by the board.

(17)(16) "Part-time employee" means one who works less than 50 percent of the normal work period.

(18)(17) "Pay plan" means a document containing one or more salary schedules schedule establishing an appropriate salary range for each class of position which includes an initial or entrance salary, a maximum salary, and a method of progression from initial to maximum.

(19)(18) "Promotion" means moving an employee from a position in one class to a position in another class having a greater degree of responsibility and a higher pay grade.

(20)(19) "Reduction in force" means dismissal, for reasons including, but not limited to, shortage of funds, abolition of a position, or material changes in job duties or

organizational structure in accordance with rules adopted by the board.

(21) "Reemployment" means appointment of a person who was dismissed due to reduction in force in accordance with rules adopted by the board.

 $\underline{(22)}\overline{(21)}$ "Resignation" means an employee's voluntary election to terminate the employee's employment.

(23) "Salary schedule" means a document which is adopted by the annual budget process or which is established by a collective bargaining or impasse procedure. Salary schedules must be adopted or established by any budget authority for those employees whose positions it funds and which employees are subject to the terms of this act. A salary schedule must include the salary range and a minimum and a maximum rate of pay and any intermediate points within a salary range.

(24)(22) "Substitute employee" means an employee who is temporarily employed to fill the position of a permanently employed person who is on approved leave of absence. A substitute employee may not fill any given position for a period exceeding 120 calendar days from the first day of appointment by the appointing authority.

(25)(23) "Suspension" means the removal of an employee from the service for a temporary period of time.

(26)(24) "Temporary employee" means an employee whose employment is not intended to exceed 120 calendar days from the first day of appointment by the appointing authority.

 $\underline{(27)(25)}$ "Tenure" means a status granted after successful completion of an initial probationary period, entitling the employee to all rights and protections provided in this act.

(28)(26) "Transfer" means the change of an employee from one position to another position.

Section 2. Paragraph (1) of subsection (3) of section 7 of chapter 96-519, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

Section 7. Creation of civil service board; method of conducting business; powers and duties.--

(3) The board shall:

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(1) Establish a procedure for reductions in force and a method for from reemployment.

Section 3. Section 13 of chapter 96-519, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

Section 13. Recommendation and adoption of classification and pay plans.--

(1) At least once annually, on or before March 31, the board shall recommend any revisions to the classification and pay plan and shall immediately forward them to each appointing authority. The pay plan shall provide, for each class of position in the classification plan, a salary with an initial entrance salary, intermediate points steps, a method of recognizing longevity, and a maximum salary. Thereafter, but not later than April 30, the board shall prepare a final recommendation, taking into consideration any responses received from any appointing authority and including as backup material copies of all such responses. If the final recommendation is for a change to the pay plan, the classification plan, or both, the recommendation shall be presented, along with the backup material, to each budget authority the board of county commissioners for the classified employees whose positions it funds. Each budget authority. The board of county commissioners must approve, amend, or reject a salary schedule the amended pay plan for the its

classified employees it funds by the date of adoption of its annual budget. A budget authority shall not adopt a salary schedule for any employee whose salary is funded by any other budget authority. The board shall adopt the salary schedule adopted by each budget authority and include each in the board's pay plan. The board shall also adopt salary schedules established in accordance with any collective bargaining or impasse resolution procedures of any of the agencies or authorities to which this act applies, and shall also include each salary schedule so established within the board's pay plan.

- (2) The maximum salary shall be established and used for each class within a salary schedule. The salary schedule shall be used unless the board makes a determination that:
- (a)1. It is in the best interests of Hillsborough

 County to approve a salary exceeding the maximum to avoid loss of pay for an employee; and
 - 2. Either:

- a. A pay grade is being reduced by administrative action, including reclassification to a position with a lower pay grade, regrading of a class to a lower pay grade, or demotion through reduction in force to a class with a lower pay grade;
 - b. An employee is voluntarily demoted; or
- (b) It is necessary to implement a court order, settlement, or contract or to avoid impairing a property interest.
- Section 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.