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An act relating to Hillsborough County; amending chapter 96-519, Laws of Florida; revising the Hillsborough County Civil Service Act to exempt the judiciary from the act; providing for review of certain actions adversely affecting certain employees within the Administrative Office of the Courts; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Section 4 of chapter 96-519, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

Section 4. Application. -- The provisions of this act apply to all classified personnel employed by the following agencies or authorities within Hillsborough County: the board of county commissioners, county administrator, clerk of the circuit court, supervisor of elections, property appraiser, tax collector, sheriff, environmental protection commission, aviation authority, port authority, planning commission, circuit court commissioner, public transportation commission, court administrator, expressway authority, law library, legislative delegation, soil and water conservation district, civil service board, sports authority, children's board, county attorney, arts council, victim assistance, and any other agency or authority not expressly exempt from this act. Each municipality in Hillsborough County, the judiciary, and the District School Board of Hillsborough County are expressly exempt from this act until and unless each executes an interlocal agreement with the Civil Service Board pursuant to

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

general law. <u>Positions within the Administrative Office of the Courts which were classified as of January 1, 1998, and which are funded by Hillsborough County shall be subject to section 13 of this act.</u>

Section 2. Paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of section 6 of chapter 96-519, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

Section 6. Classes of employees.--

- (2) The following classes of employment are exempt from the classified service and are subject to any rights provided by their appointing authority. The exempt service includes:
- (f) Secretaries of and administrative aides to judges, the county attorney, the chief executive officer of any board, authority, or commission, and each elected official.

Section 3. Present sections 13 through 25 of chapter 96-519, Laws of Florida, as amended by chapter 97-349, Laws of Florida, are redesignated as sections 14 through 26, respectively, and a new section 13 is added to said chapter to read:

Section 13. Administrative Office of the Courts; hearing to review action of dismissal, demotion, or suspension.—Any employee holding a position within the Administrative Office of the Courts which was classified as of January 1, 1998, and which is funded by Hillsborough County may request a hearing to review such dismissal, demotion, or suspension actions by making a written request to the board within 10 calendar days after the official date of receipt of the final notice of the action. The request for a hearing must state clearly and simply the reason such employee believes the action was not justified. The board shall send a copy of any employee's request for hearing to the court administrator

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    within 3 working days after receipt. The practice and
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    procedure of the board with respect to a review hearing
    authorized in this section shall be in accordance with adopted
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    rules. If the board finds that such court employee's
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    dismissal, demotion, or suspension was for a reason other than
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    just cause, it may recommend to the chief judge that such
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    employee be restored to that employee's former status. Such
    recommendation is not binding on the chief judge.
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           Section 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
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    law.
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