By Representatives Culp, Crist, Ogles, Bradley, Tamargo, Byrd, Wallace, Miller and Murman

A bill to be entitled
An act relating to Hillsborough County;
providing for the consolidation of the job
training partnership programs of the City of
Tampa and of Hillsborough County; providing for
employees who are transferred from the city to
the county to elect, within a specified
deadline, to remain in the City of Tampa
pension plan or to transfer to the Florida
Retirement System; providing procedures for
making the election; providing that county job
training partnership program employees who are
hired after a specified date become members of
the Florida Retirement System; providing an
effective date.

WHEREAS, the United States Congress, on October 13, 1982, enacted Public Law Number 97-300, the Job Training Partnership Act (hereinafter referred to as the "JTPA"), and charged the State of Florida with the duty of establishing local service delivery areas (hereinafter "SDAs"), and

WHEREAS, the unincorporated and incorporated areas within the confines of the boundaries of Hillsborough County have been designated by the Governor of this state as the SDA, and

WHEREAS, prior to July 1, 1996, the City of Tampa and Hillsborough County were independent JTPA entities that provided programs in separate areas, and, as a result of the Governor's designation of the unincorporated and incorporated areas of Hillsborough County as the local service delivery area for JTPA programs, the City of Tampa and Hillsborough

County have combined their programs to serve the single SDA, with Hillsborough County being the grant recipient and administrative entity for Title II programs under the JTPA and the substate grantee for Title III programs under the JTPA, and

WHEREAS, the consolidation of JTPA functions under a single administrative and operating entity necessitates the transfer of certain City of Tampa employees, each of whom may or may not wish to take the option of remaining in the General Employees' Pension Plan for the City of Tampa (the "pension plan") once he or she becomes a Hillsborough County employee, and

WHEREAS, pursuant to chapter 23559, Laws of Florida, as amended, an individual must be an employee of the City of Tampa in order to participate in the pension plan, thereby making such participation possible only if the Florida Legislature adopts a special act authorizing such participation, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

Section 1. City of Tampa employees to be transferred to Hillsborough County; election of pension plan; costs of plan for employees electing to remain in city's pension plan.—All classified City of Tampa employees who, on June 30, 1998, are assigned to the City of Tampa's Job Training Partnership Program shall be transferred on July 1, 1998, to Hillsborough County positions that are commensurate with their positions with the city. Each City of Tampa employee who is so transferred may, by the deadline prescribed under section 2 of this act, elect to remain a member of the General Employees'

Pension Plan of the City of Tampa for the duration of his or her employment by the county or may elect to become a member of the Florida Retirement System, with all its attendant rights. The county must pay to the city the employer's share of the pension costs for each employee who remains a member of the city pension plan, and the county must also deduct from each such employee's salary and remit to the city the employee's share of the pension costs. Any person who is hired by the county for its Job Training Partnership Program after June 30, 1998, becomes a member of the Florida Retirement System.

Section 2. Election procedures.--The election procedure is as follows:

- (1) Each employee who transfers from city to county employment and who is covered by this act must be given written notice of his or her right of election under section 1 of this act.
- (2) Each such transferred employee has 15 calendar days after the date of receipt of notice of his or her right of election to elect to remain a member of the city pension plan or to become a member of the Florida Retirement System.
- (3) An employee who elects to become a member of the Florida Retirement System or fails to make an election becomes a member of the Florida Retirement System effective July 1, 1998.

Section 3. This act shall take effect June 1 of the year in which enacted.