An act relating to Palm Beach County; amending ch. 93-367, Laws of Florida, as amended; revising provisions relating to employees of the Palm Beach County Sheriff; limiting benefits to employees beyond the rank of captain; deleting a provision which preserves current benefits when a new sheriff takes office; providing for construction; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 3 of chapter 93-367, Laws of Florida, as amended by chapter 96-450, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

Section 3. Preservation of employment benefits and emoluments.--

- (1) The provisions of this section shall apply to all certified and noncertified persons in the employ of the Sheriff of Palm Beach County, including deputy sheriffs, as specified in section 1(2)(a) of chapter 93-367, Laws of Florida, except that this section shall not apply to those employees beyond the rank of captain or its civilian equivalent.
- (2) Whenever a new sheriff takes office, the sheriff shall preserve current employment benefits and emoluments during the remainder of that fiscal year or 6 calendar months, whichever is greater.
- $\underline{\text{(2)}}$ (3) At all other times, Existing employer-paid benefits and emoluments with regard to the pay plan, longevity

plan, tuition-reimbursement plan, career-path program, health insurance, life insurance, and disability benefits may not be substantially reduced, except in the case of exigent operational necessity. (3) (4) Nothing in this act shall preclude the sheriff from enhancing those benefits and emoluments for employees and appointees of the Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office. (4) Nothing in this act shall be construed as affecting the budget-making authority and power of the Palm Beach County Board of County Commissioners. Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.