HOUSE AMENDMENT

Bill No. HB 1715

Amendment No. ____ (for drafter's use only) CHAMBER ACTION Senate House 1 2 3 4 5 ORIGINAL STAMP BELOW 6 7 8 9 10 11 The Committee on Governmental Operations offered the following: 12 13 14 Amendment On page 8, line 6, through page 16, line 18, 15 remove from the bill: all of said lines 16 17 18 and insert in lieu thereof: 19 be paid according to the following table, to wit: 20 (i) 75 % upon the first.....\$200.00 of compensation 21 70 % upon the next.....\$100.00 of compensation 22 65 % upon any additional amount; or-23 (ii) If an employee retires on a normal pension 24 benefit after July 1, 1999, with 25 years of service or more, 25 the employee shall receive a benefit equal to 75 percent of 26 his or her final average monthly compensation. 27 (b) The pension of those firefighters firemen retired 28 hereunder for cause other than disability incurred in line of 29 duty, whose period of service shall be less than 25 years, 30 shall be computed under the table set out in subsection 31 (a)(i), and after said amount shall have been so determined, 1 File original & 9 copies hgo0002 04/17/00 06:26 pm 01715-qo -060015

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1	the sum payable shall be reduced to the percentage set
2	opposite the number of years of service shown in the following
3	schedule <u>, to wit</u> :
4	For 1 year of service or less
5	For 2 years of service
6	For 3 years of service42%
7	For 4 years of service48%
8	For 5 years of service
9	For 6 years of service
10	For 7 years of service64%
11	For 8 years of service
12	For 9 years of service
13	For 10 years of service
14	For 11 years of service
15	For 12 years of service
16	For 13 years of service
17	For 14 years of service
18	For 15 years of service
19	For 16 years of service82%
20	For 17 years of service84%
21	For 18 years of service
22	For 19 years of service
23	For 20 years of service90%
24	For 21 years of service92%
25	For 22 years of service94%
26	For 23 years of service96%
27	For 24 years of service
28	For 25 years of service
29	(c) The pension of those <u>firefighters</u> firemen retired
30	hereunder because of a disability or injuries received in line
31	of duty, whose period of service shall be less than 25 years,

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shall be computed under the table set out in subsection (a)(i), and after said amount shall have been so determined, the sum payable shall be reduced to the percentage set opposite the number of years of service shown in the following schedule, to wit: For 5 years of service.....76% For 15 years of service.....90% For 16 years of service......91% For 19 years of service......94% For 25 years of service.....100% (d) Those firefighters firemen whose period of service

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before attaining the age of 60 years shall exceed 25 years and who retire with a pension calculated under subsection (a)(i) shall receive an increase of 1 percent in the amount of pension for each additional year or major fraction thereof; and in computing any period of service, a major fraction of a year shall be counted as a whole year.

7 (e) Any duly appointed and enrolled firefighter who upon the taking effect of this act, or hereafter, shall have 8 9 attained the age of 52 years and who retires with a pension calculated under subsection (a) shall be, upon application to 10 the board of trustees, retired on a pension as in this section 11 12 is provided; and any such person who shall have served as a 13 duly appointed and enrolled firefighter for a period of 25 14 years, but who has not attained the age of 52 years, upon 15 application to the board of trustees shall be retired on a pension as in this section provided except that the amount of 16 17 such pension shall be reduced in the ratio that the applicant's age bears to 52 years. Any time spent in military 18 or naval service, voluntary or compulsory, or other forms of 19 national service in time of war, or within 1 year thereafter, 20 by any person theretofore employed by said city, shall be 21 deemed equivalent to a like period of actual service in the 22 employment of the city for the purpose of securing the 23 24 benefits of this act; and, further, any employee who shall be laid off because of illness, reduction of force, or other 25 cause not of the employee's own doing and who shall elect not 26 27 to withdraw his or her contribution to the said retirement fund, or to return the same if withdrawn, shall be entitled to 28 have the period of such service prior to said layoff added to 29 any subsequent service for the purpose of computing his or her 30 31 period of service.

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(f) Any person regularly employed by the City of 1 2 Pensacola as a duly appointed and enrolled firefighter, who 3 shall while so employed and in line of duty become totally and 4 permanently disabled to perform duties as a firefighter or who 5 shall become so disabled not in the line of duty, through no 6 intentional and self-inflicted injury, shall upon application 7 and the approval thereof by the board of trustees be entitled to and shall receive a pension, to be determined in accordance 8 with the schedules above set out having regard to his or her 9 10 rate of pay and period of service irrespective of his or her 11 age.

12 Any firefighter employee retired under the (g) provisions of this section, or any widow or widower entitled 13 to a pension under this chapter, shall be entitled to receive 14 15 not less than \$500 per month, irrespective of the term of 16 service, and of the results of the tables above set out. This 17 provision is applicable to all persons who are receiving benefits from the Firefighters'Firemen's Relief and Pension 18 Fund prior to January 1, 1986. They shall receive this benefit 19 20 as of July 14, 1986.

Section 6. Chapter 74-576, Laws of Florida, as amended by chapters 85-486 and 99-463, Laws of Florida, is renumbered as section 6 of chapter 21483, Laws of Florida, 1941, and amended to read:

25 Section <u>6.1.</u> Increase in benefits due to consumer
26 price index increases.--

27 (a) A cost-of-living increase in benefits paid
28 pursuant to this act shall be given effective July 1, 1999,
29 and shall be paid annually thereafter. Each annual increase
30 shall have an effective date of July 1. All such increases
31 shall be equal to but no greater than the annual increase in

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the Consumer Price Index (U) issued by the United States 1 2 Department of Labor, provided that such increase shall in no 3 event be greater than 3 percent per year. The annual CPI (U) 4 period to be used for calculation of any increase shall end in 5 March of the year of the July 1 increase. The increase in the CPI (U) shall be the change in the values from April 1 to 6 7 March 31. In the event the United States Department of Labor ceases to issue a CPI (U), the board shall utilize a current 8 CPI index that is the functional equivalent. 9

10 <u>(b)Section 2.</u> After June 22, 1974, no person shall 11 transfer creditable service from another retirement system 12 into the <u>Firefighters'Firemen's</u> Relief and Pension Fund.

13 (c) Section 3. The City of Pensacola, by ordinance, 14 may permit but not require members of the Firefighters' 15 Firemen's Relief and Pension Fund who are eligible, to participate in a Deferred Retirement Option Plan program 16 17 (DROP). The ordinance may include members who are eligible to retire and to receive retirement benefits to remain in the 18 active service of the city until a contractually fixed 19 termination date and to have accumulated for the employee's 20 account from the date the contract is made all benefits which 21 the employee would be eligible to begin receiving on that date 22 and to have those accumulated benefits held for the benefit of 23 24 the employee until the employee separates from active service. 25 Such ordinance may provide for forfeiture of the accumulated benefits or other penalty if the employee does not comply with 26 27 the contract. However, if the employee complies in all respects with the terms of the contract, the employee shall 28 receive all retirement benefits the employee would be entitled 29 30 to under this act upon the employee's actual retirement from 31 the active service of the city.

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Section 7. Section 5.5 of chapter 21483, Laws of 1 2 Florida, 1941, as created by chapter 83-500, Laws of Florida, 3 is renumbered as section 7, and amended to read: 4 Section 7.5.5. Disability pensions.--Applications, 5 determinations, awards, and re-evaluations of disability 6 pensions for firefighters firemen shall be governed by the 7 following: (a) Either a firefighter fireman, or the employer on 8 behalf of a firefighter fireman, must make application for 9 10 disability retirement complete with medical and other evidentiary material as prescribed by the pension board. 11 12 (b) Upon receipt of an application for disability 13 retirement, the board of trustees shall make a determination of disability, which determination shall be final. The board 14 15 of trustees shall employ the service of one or more independent, third party agents, such as, but not limited to, 16 17 a health and disability claims adjusting firm, to evaluate the case and to make a report containing recommended findings and 18 conclusion, which may be approved or disapproved, or modified 19 in the determination of the board of trustees. 20 21 (c) A firefighter will be considered totally and permanently disabled if, in the opinion of the board of 22 trustees, he or she is wholly prevented from rendering useful 23 24 and efficient service as a firefighter; and a firefighter will be considered totally and permanently disabled if, in the 25 26 opinion of the board of trustees, he or she is likely to 27 remain so disabled continuously and permanently from a cause 28 other than as specified in subsection (d). 29 (d) A firefighter will not be entitled to receive any 30 disability retirement income if the disability is a result of: Excessive and habitual use by the firefighter of 31 (i) 7

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drugs, intoxicants, or narcotics; 1 2 (ii) Injury or disease sustained by the firefighter 3 while willfully and illegally participating in fights, riots, 4 or civil insurrections or while committing a crime; 5 (iii) Injury or disease sustained by the firefighter 6 while serving in any armed forces; or 7 (iv) Injury or disease sustained by the firefighter after his or her employment has terminated. 8 9 (e)(c) The board of trustees, through its third party 10 agents, shall periodically re-evaluate disability pensioners to determine if the condition of total and permanent 11 12 disability persists. If the pensioner has recovered 13 sufficiently, as determined by the board so that the pensioner is no longer totally and permanently disabled to perform his 14 15 or her duties as a firefighter fireman, and this determination 16 is made within 1 year of the effective date of the award of 17 the pension, said pensioner shall be reinstated to active service in the same rank he or she occupied prior to the award 18 of his or her pension, and the period of such time which said 19 firefighter fireman is out of active service because of 20 21 disability shall be credited as part of the period of service required for final retirement. If such determination is made 22 more than 1 year after the effective date of the award of the 23 24 pension, the pensioner shall be placed on an eligible list to 25 be reinstated to his or her position upon the first vacancy in that position. At such time as a pensioner resumes active 26 27 service, or at such time as a pensioner refuses to accept 28 reinstatement to active service, the payment of pension 29 benefits shall cease. No firefighter fireman who has attained the age of 52 $\frac{55}{55}$ years or who has been in active service as a 30 31 firefighter fireman for 25 years, and is drawing a pension,

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shall be restored to duty by any power or for any cause 1 2 whatsoever. 3 Section 8. Section 6 of chapter 21483, Laws of 4 Florida, 1941, as amended by chapter 22434, Laws of Florida, 1943, and chapters 57-1713 and 86-450, Laws of Florida, is 5 renumbered as section 8, and amended to read: 6 7 Section 8.6. Automatic retirement. -- Any firefighter 8 employee or person, subject to the provisions of this act 9 attaining the age of seventy (70) years shall be automatically 10 retired and shall cease to draw his or her compensation as such employee, but shall become immediately entitled to the 11 12 pension or benefits provided hereby. In the event of doubt as to the attainment of such age, the Civil Service Board shall 13 make inquiry and determine such fact after due notice to 14 15 interested parties; provided that the provisions of this 16 section shall not become operative until January 1, 1960, the 17 former law remaining in effect until such date. Section 9. Section 9 of chapter 57-1713, Laws of 18 Florida, as amended by chapters 59-1723, 87-527, 89-444, and 19 89-474, Laws of Florida, is renumbered as section 10 of 20 21 chapter 21483, Laws of Florida, 1941, and amended to read: 22 Section 10.9. Retirement after 10 years' service.--If any firefighter of the City of Pensacola shall, after serving 23 24 as such for a period of 10 full years or becoming otherwise 25 eligible for retirement, cease to be such firefighter for any cause and shall not make withdrawal of all his or her 26 27 contributions to the Firefighters'Firefighters Relief and 28 Pension Trust Fund as provided by law, or having withdrawn the same, shall return it with 8 percent interest from the date of 29 30 such withdrawal, he or she shall be eligible to receive the 31 benefits equal to the amount provided in section subsection

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1	5(a),	multiplied	by	the	number	of	years	of	service;	for	this
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