By Representatives Murman, Crist, Ogles, Bradley, Byrd, Bilirakis, Littlefield, Henriquez, Hart and L. Miller

A bill to be entitled An act relating to the City of Tampa, Hillsborough County, and particularly to the City Pension Fund for Firefighters and Police Officers in the City of Tampa; authorizing the City of Tampa to enter into a supplemental contract with certain firefighters and police officers to provide for the purchase of creditable service for past service; amending chapter 23559, Laws of Florida, 1945, as amended, relating to the General Employees' Pension Plan of the City of Tampa; revising the benefits to certain firefighters and police officers; confirming in part the City of Tampa Firefighters and Police Officers Pension Contract; 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. The City of Tampa is authorized and empowered to enter into a supplemental contract with each and every firefighter or police officer who is an active or contributing member of the City Pension for Firefighters and Police Officers in the City of Tampa on or after the date this act becomes a law, or who hereafter enters into a pension contract with the City, creating Section 28 of the City of Tampa Firefighters and Police Officers Pension Contract to read:

Service by Certain Firefighters and Police Officers.

30 31 (A) Each firefighter and police officer who, on October 15, 1992, was a member in Division B of the General Employees' Pension Plan for the City of Tampa, who became a member of this Fund for service occurring on or after October 16, 1992, and is a member of this Fund on or after July 1, 2000, may elect to purchase creditable service under this Pension Contract for service as a firefighter or police officer with the City of Tampa prior to October 16, 1992, if said employee complies with the following:

- (1) Notify the City of Tampa and the Board of Trustees of this Fund, in writing, at any time between July 1, 2000, and December 31, 2000, of his or her desire to purchase creditable service for such past service;
- (2) Upon electing to purchase creditable service for such past service, such employee shall submit on a form required by the City an irrevocable waiver of any pension benefits under the General Employees' Pension Plan for the City of Tampa; and
- into the pension fund a sum of money equal to the aggregate employee contributions, plus compound interest thereon at the rate of 10 percent (10%) per annum, which the employee would have paid into the Fund pursuant to Section 2(D) of this Contract, had the employee participated in the Fund during the period of such prior service.
- (B) For each firefighter and police officer electing to purchase creditable service for past service as provided in this Section 28, by September 30, 2001, the City shall pay into the pension fund a sum of money equal to the City contributions, plus compound interest thereon at the rate of 10 percent (10%) per annum, which the City would have paid

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into the Fund for such firefighters and police officers pursuant to Section 2(B) and (C) of this Contract, had such firefighters and police officers participated in the Fund during the period of such prior service.

(C) Notwithstanding any other provision of this contract, benefits for creditable service purchased by firefighters and police officers pursuant to this Section 28 shall be calculated in the same manner as are such firefighters' and police officers' benefits for creditable service commencing on October 16, 1992.

Section 2. Section 21 of chapter 23559, Laws of Florida, 1945, as amended, is amended to read:

Section 21. Pension Benefits; Certain Firefighters and Police Officers. -- Notwithstanding any other provision of this act to the contrary, the following provisions shall apply only to those firefighters and police officers who prior to October 16, 1992, (the effective date of the Older Workers Benefit Protection Act [the "OWBPA Effective Date"]) were participants in Division B of the Plan and who became become members of the City Pension Fund for Firefighters and Police Officers in the City of Tampa as of the OWBPA Effective Date pursuant to chapter 94-463, Laws of Florida, and who did not subsequently purchase creditable service under the City Pension Fund for Firefighters and Police Officers in the City of Tampa for service as a firefighter or police officer with the City of Tampa prior to the OWBPA Effective Date:

(1) Longevity retirement, deferred pension, early retirement and death benefits accrued as of the OWBPA Effective Date shall be computed by using only that period of Service prior to the OWBPA Effective Date and shall be paid 31 to, or paid on behalf of, each such firefighter or police

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officer on and after the OWBPA Effective Date as set forth under the terms of this Act.

- (2) Death benefits payable on behalf of any such firefighter or police officer shall be provided only as set forth in subparagraphs 2, 3 and 4 of Section 12(B) of this Plan; provided, however, that if a death benefit is paid under the City Pension Fund for Firefighters and Police Officers in the City of Tampa on behalf of any such firefighter or police officer on account of death resulting from injuries or causes occurring while in the discharge of duty as a firefighter or police officer, then no death benefit shall be paid on behalf of such firefighter or police officer under this Act.
- (3) Disability benefits shall not be paid to any such firefighter or police officer after the OWBPA Effective Date.
- (4) For purposes of determining the minimum number of years necessary to have a vested pension and the Normal Retirement Date of any such firefighter or police officer, Service after the OWBPA Effective Date shall be counted as Continuous Service under this Act.
- (5) The Average Monthly Salary of each such firefighter or police officer shall be determined by calculating the average of such firefighter's or police officer's salary for the highest 3 of the last 10 years of participation in Division B of the Plan prior to the OWBPA Effective Date, and dividing by 12; provided, however, that in the event such firefighter or police officer does not have 10 years of participation in Division B of the Plan prior to the OWBPA Effective Date at the time his Average Monthly Salary is calculated, the average for the highest 3 of the total number of years of participation in Division B of the Plan prior to 31 the OWBPA Effective Date, shall be used; provided, further,

that if such firefighter or police officer does not have 3 years of participation in Division B of the Plan prior to the OWBPA Effective Date, the average for years of such participation shall be used.

Section 3. The City of Tampa Firefighters and Police Officers Pension Contract as prescribed by Section 28-17 of the City of Tampa Code [Ordinance No. 4746-A, enacted September 30, 1969], as amended by Section 28-19 of the City of Tampa Code [Ordinance No. 6038-A, enacted September 17, 1974], pursuant to chapter 74-613, Laws of Florida; as further amended by Ordinance No. 89-314, enacted December 21, 1989, and approved, ratified, validated, and confirmed by chapter 90-391, Laws of Florida; and as further amended by chapter 94-463, Laws of Florida, and chapter 98-515, Laws of Florida, is in all other respects approved, ratified, validated, and confirmed.

Section 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.