HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES LOCAL BILL STAFF ANALYSIS

BILL #: SPONSOR(S): TIED BILLS:	HB 1369 w/CS Domino None		Palm Beach Police Pension Fund				
	REFERENCE		ACTION	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR		
1) Local Affairs (Sub)			<u>8 Y, 0 N</u>	Nelson	Cutchins		
2) Local Government & Veterans' Affairs			20 Y, 0 N w/CS	Nelson	Cutchins		
3) State Administration				Williamson	Everhart		
4)							
5)							

SUMMARY ANALYSIS

This bill revises the definition of "salary," and increases death benefits paid from the West Palm Beach Police Officers' Pension Plan to the surviving spouses of police officers killed in the line of duty.

According to the Economic Impact Statement, the estimated cost for implementation of this bill is \$26,836 for FY 04-05 and for FY 05-06. The Division of Retirement, however, has estimated that the fiscal impact of this bill is \$30,000 for FY 04-05, \$31,000 for FY 05-06, and \$33,000 for FY 06-07.

FULL ANALYSIS

I. SUBSTANTIVE ANALYSIS

A. DOES THE BILL:

1.	Reduce government?	Yes[]	No[]	N/A[x]
2.	Lower taxes?	Yes[]	No[]	N/A[x]
3.	Expand individual freedom?	Yes[]	No[]	N/A[x]
4.	Increase personal responsibility?	Yes[]	No[]	N/A[x]
5.	Empower families?	Yes[]	No[]	N/A[x]

For any principle that received a "no" above, please explain: Not applicable.

B. EFFECT OF PROPOSED CHANGES:

This bill amends the West Palm Beach Police Pension Fund plan to improve the definition of "salary" to meet the minimum requirements of ch. 99-1, L.O.F. It provides enhanced benefits for the surviving spouse of a police officer killed in the line of duty to two-thirds of the member's highest 12 consecutive months or the current top step police officer pay, whichever is greater.

Currently, the salary definition includes regular hours worked, overtime payments for services performed for the city, hazardous duty pay, holiday pay, educational supplements, longevity pay, specialized assignment pay, and any payments for approved leave. Current line of duty death benefits for the surviving spouse are equal to four-ninths of the member's final average salary.

C. SECTION DIRECTORY:

Section 1: Amends ch. 24981 (1947), L.O.F., relating to the West Palm Beach Police Pension Fund.

Section 2: Provides an effective date of upon becoming a law.

II. NOTICE/REFERENDUM AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

A. NOTICE PUBLISHED? Yes [x] No []

IF YES, WHEN? December 15, 2003

WHERE? The Palm Beach Post, a daily newspaper published in Palm Beach County, Florida

B. REFERENDUM(S) REQUIRED? Yes [] No [x]

IF YES, WHEN? Not applicable.

- C. LOCAL BILL CERTIFICATION FILED? Yes, attached [x] No []
- D. ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT FILED? Yes, attached [x] No []

According to the Economic Impact Statement, the estimated cost for implementation of this bill is \$26,836 for FY 04-05 and for FY 05-06.

A. CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES: None.

B. RULE-MAKING AUTHORITY: None.

C. DRAFTING ISSUES OR OTHER COMMENTS:

The Division of Retirement's Actuarial Statement of Fiscal Soundness provides the following:

- This bill affects neither the Florida Retirement System nor the System's Trust Fund.
- The requirements of Art. X, s.14 of the State Constitution and the provisions of ch. 112, part VII, F.S., have been satisfied.
- The actuarial cost impact statement dated March 18, 2004, determines an annual ongoing 0.16 percent increase in the cost rate payable by the city. On the basis of an annual five percent growth in payroll, the additional cost is expected to be approximately \$30,000 for the FY 04/05, based on the actuarial valuation prepared as of September 30, 2002, but with a changed in-line-of-duty death assumption.

On the basis of the assumed five percent annual increase in payroll, the projected costs are:

	<u>FY 04/05</u>		<u>FY 05/06</u>	<u>FY06/07</u>	
Cost Increase:		0.16 30,000	0.16 31,000	0.16 33,000	

IV. AMENDMENT/COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE CHANGES

The Committee on Local Government & Veterans' Affairs adopted an amendment at its meeting on March 31, 2004, which eliminated language in the bill that repealed all conflicting or inconsistent special laws and parts of special laws.