

By: Representatives Snowden, Young, Robinson  
(84th), Horne

To: Local and Private  
Legislation

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE  
FOR  
HOUSE BILL NO. 1657

1 AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE GOVERNING AUTHORITIES OF THE CITY OF  
2 MERIDIAN TO ELECT TO PROVIDE CREDITABLE SERVICE FOR ABSENCES FROM  
3 EMPLOYMENT DUE TO ACTIVE DUTY MILITARY SERVICE AND MARITIME  
4 SERVICE TO MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT  
5 SYSTEM AND THE DISABILITY AND RELIEF FUND FOR FIREMEN AND  
6 POLICEMEN OF THE CITY WHO RETIRE AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS  
7 ACT; TO PROVIDE THAT THE CREDITABLE SERVICE SHALL NOT BE PROVIDED  
8 UNLESS THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM AND THE  
9 DISABILITY AND RELIEF FUND CURRENTLY ARE ACTUARIALLY SOUND AND  
10 WILL REMAIN ACTUARIALLY SOUND IF THAT CREDITABLE SERVICE IS  
11 PROVIDED; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

13 **SECTION 1.** (1) Subject to the provisions of subsection (2)  
14 of this section, the governing authorities of the City of  
15 Meridian, Mississippi, in their discretion, may elect to provide  
16 creditable service for periods in which a member of the General  
17 Municipal Employees' Retirement System or the Disability and  
18 Relief Fund for Firemen and Policemen of the City of Meridian may  
19 have been absent from employment for active duty United States  
20 military service and maritime service, not to exceed four (4)  
21 years, to persons who are entitled to receive benefits under any  
22 provision of Section 21-29-1 et seq. or Section 21-29-101 et seq.,  
23 Mississippi Code of 1972, by virtue of service as an employee of  
24 the City of Meridian under the General Municipal Employees'  
25 Retirement System or as a member of, or through a member of, the  
26 fire or police department, or both, of the City of Meridian, and  
27 who retire from service on or after the effective date of this  
28 act. In no case shall a member receive creditable service under  
29 this section if the member received a dishonorable discharge from  
30 the United States military or maritime service.



31           (2) Creditable service for active duty military service and  
32 maritime service shall not be provided under this section unless:

33               (a) The General Municipal Employees' Retirement System  
34 and the Disability and Relief Fund for Firemen and Policemen of  
35 the City of Meridian are actuarially sound, as shown by the most  
36 recent actuarial study required by Section 21-29-119, Mississippi  
37 Code of 1972; and

38               (b) The retirement system and the disability and relief  
39 fund will remain actuarially sound if creditable service for  
40 active military duty service and maritime service is provided  
41 under this section, as shown by a certified statement from the  
42 actuarial firm that prepared the most recent actuarial study.

43           (3) The Board of Trustees of the Public Employees'  
44 Retirement System shall provide creditable service for active duty  
45 military service and maritime service to the persons authorized  
46 and entitled to receive that creditable service, after each of the  
47 following conditions have been met:

48               (a) The governing authorities of the City of Meridian  
49 must adopt a resolution to have creditable service for active duty  
50 military service and maritime service as provided under this  
51 section and transmit the resolution to the board of trustees; and

52               (b) The board of trustees must receive the resolution  
53 from the governing authorities and receive the most recent  
54 actuarial study of the retirement system and the disability and  
55 relief fund and the certified statement from the actuarial firm  
56 that the retirement system and the disability and relief fund will  
57 remain actuarially sound if that creditable service is provided.

58           **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
59 and after its passage.

