



**Retirement and Insurance Service
Benefits Administration Letter**

Number: 01-111

Date: August 28, 2001

**Subject: President Signs Federal Firefighters Retirement Age Fairness Act
Public Law 107-27**

On August 20, 2001, the President signed the Federal Firefighters Retirement Age Fairness Act (Public Law 107-27). This law increases the mandatory separation age of firefighters under CSRS and FERS to age 57. Prior to the enactment of the Federal Firefighters Retirement Age Fairness Act, firefighters were subject to mandatory separation at age 55.

The Federal Firefighters Retirement Age Fairness Act was effective on the date of signing. Any notice of mandatory separation of a firefighter with the date of separation on or after August 20, 2001, is ineffective and the employee may continue to work in his or her firefighting position. Any mandatory separation at age 55 after the enactment of Federal Firefighters Retirement Age Fairness Act will be an erroneous separation subject to cancellation. Alternatively, the employee may elect to accept voluntary retirement under the CSRS or FERS firefighter retirement provisions.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Mary Ellen Wilson".

Mary Ellen Wilson, Director
Retirement Policy Center
Retirement and Insurance Service

*Civil Service
Retirement
System*

*Federal Employees'
Group Life
Insurance Program*

*Federal Employees
Health Benefits
Program*

*Federal Employees
Retirement
System*

*Long Term
Care Insurance
Program*