



**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

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*Civil Service  
Retirement  
System*

*Federal Employees'  
Group Life  
Insurance Program*

*Federal Employees  
Health Benefits  
Program*

*Federal Employees  
Retirement  
System*

*Long Term  
Care Insurance  
Program*