AN ORDINANCE CLARIFYING RETIREES' ELIGIBILITY TO PARTICIPATE IN THE CITY'S HEALTH CARE PLAN; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, Arkansas Code Annotated § 24-12-129 establishes the eligibility for certain municipal officials and employees age fifty-five (55) years or older and who has completed twenty (20) years of service to continue to participate in the municipality's health care plan upon retirement; and

WHEREAS, A.C.A. § 24-12-130 authorizes municipalities to provide benefits contained in § 24-12-129 to retirees who are less than age fifty-five (55) or who have completed fewer than twenty (20) years of municipal service;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CONWAY, ARKANSAS, THAT:

Section 1. That when any city official or city employee, regardless of age, who has completed twenty (20) years of service to the City of Conway and who is vested in the retirement system retires, the official or employee may continue to participate in the City's municipal health care plan, receiving the same medical benefits and paying the same premium as active employees as long as the retired official or employee pays both employer and employee contributions to the health care plan.

Section 2. That any city official or city employee who has retired from service to the City of Conway and who is currently participating in the City's municipal health care plan may continue

to do so, receiving the same medical benefits and paying the same premium as active employees as long as the retired official or employee pays both employer and employee contributions to the health care plan.

Section 3: That the benefits conferred herein are granted solely to retirees who meet the above criteria, and are not a benefit or expected benefit for current employees who have not yet retired.

Section 4: That any ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of that conflict.

Section 5: That this ordinance is necessary for the protection of the peace, health and safety of the citizens of Conway, and therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this ordinance shall go into effect from and after its passage and approval.

PASSED this 20th day of June, 2002.

APPROVED:

ATTEST: