

The House Committee on Public Safety offers the following substitute to HB 202:

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT**

1 To amend Code Section 27-1-6 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
2 powers and duties of the Department of Natural Resources generally, so as to provide for
3 certain incentive pay for certain law enforcement officers; to amend Code Section 35-2-42
4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to compensation of certain members of
5 the Department of Public Safety and certain members of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation,
6 so as to change the persons eligible for and the amount of certain incentive pay; to provide
7 an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Code Section 27-1-6 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the powers and
duties of the Department of Natural Resources generally, is amended by inserting
immediately following paragraph (8) a new paragraph to read as follows:

"(8.1) To grant incentive pay to sworn law enforcement officers certified pursuant to
Chapter 8 of Title 35 employed by the department who have obtained degrees or
certificates from an accredited member of the Federation of Regional Accrediting
Commissions of Higher Education or who have obtained a degree or certificate of
completion from some other educational institution with respect to a course of instruction
related to law enforcement, so long as both the course of instruction and the institution
are specifically approved by the board. Any such incentive pay shall be paid according
to the following schedule:

- (A) Completion of at least one year of degree-creditable college study consisting of the equivalent of 30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours of education: \$1,000.00 per year;
- (B) Obtaining of associate or two-year degree or certificate of completion of 60 semester hours or 90 quarter hours of education: \$2,000.00 per year; or
- (C) Obtaining of a bachelor's or four-year degree: \$5,000.00 per year.

In no event shall any employee eligible under this paragraph be entitled to receive more
than one of the payments provided for in this paragraph at any one time;"

SECTION 2.

Code Section 35-2-42 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to compensation of certain members of the Department of Public Safety and certain members of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation, is amended by striking subsection (d) and inserting in its place a new subsection (d) to read as follows:

"(d) The board shall be authorized to grant incentive pay to those sworn members of the Uniform Division of the Department of Public Safety and those members of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation who have obtained degrees or certificates from an accredited member of the Federation of Regional Accrediting Commissions of Higher Education or who have obtained a degree or certificate of completion from some other educational institution with respect to a course of instruction related to law enforcement, so long as both the course of instruction and the institution are specifically approved by the board. Any such incentive pay shall be paid according to the following schedule:

- (1) Completion of at least one year of degree-creditable college study consisting of the equivalent of 30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours of education: \$200.00 \$1,000.00 per year;
- (2) Obtaining of associate or two-year degree or certificate of completion of 60 semester hours or 90 quarter hours of education: \$400.00 \$2,000.00 per year; or
- (3) Obtaining of a bachelor's or four-year degree: \$800.00 \$5,000.00 per year.

In no event shall any employee eligible under this subsection be entitled to receive more than one of the payments provided for in this subsection at any one time."

SECTION 3.

This Act shall become effective October 1, 2001.

SECTION 4.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.