

House Bill 158

By: Representatives Day of the 126th and Stephens of the 123rd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 3-2-30 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
2 powers and duties of special agents and enforcement officers of the Department of Revenue,
3 so as to provide that certain special agents and enforcement officers of said department who
4 leave such department as a result of a disability arising in the line of duty may retain their
5 weapons and badges upon leaving the department; to amend Code Section 27-1-16 of the
6 Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the establishment of a unit of conservation
7 rangers within the Department of Natural Resources, so as to provide that certain
8 conservation rangers of said department who leave such department as a result of a disability
9 arising in the line of duty may retain their weapons and badges upon leaving the department;
10 to amend Title 35 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to law enforcement
11 officers and agencies, so as to provide that certain members of the Uniform Division who
12 leave such division as a result of a disability arising in the line of duty may retain their
13 weapons and badges upon leaving the division; to provide that when an agent of the Georgia
14 Bureau of Investigation leaves the bureau under honorable conditions and after accumulating
15 25 years of law enforcement service with the bureau or as a result of a disability arising in
16 the line of duty, such agent shall be entitled as part of such agent's compensation to retain
17 his or her weapon and badge pursuant to regulations promulgated by the director of
18 investigation; to amend Code Section 48-11-19 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
19 relating to the powers and duties of special agents and enforcement officers of the
20 Department of Revenue, so as to provide that certain special agents and enforcement officers
21 of said department who leave such department as a result of a disability arising in the line of
22 duty may retain their weapons and badges upon leaving the department; to repeal conflicting
23 laws; and for other purposes.

24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Code Section 3-2-30 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the powers and duties of special agents and enforcement officers of the Department of Revenue, is amended by striking subsection (d) and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (d) to read as follows:

~~"(d) After an agent or enforcement officer has accumulated 25 years of service with the department, upon leaving the department under honorable conditions~~ When an agent or enforcement officer leaves the department under honorable conditions and after accumulating 25 years of service with the department or as a result of a disability arising in the line of duty, such agent or enforcement officer shall be entitled as part of such officer's compensation to retain his or her weapon and badge pursuant to regulations promulgated by the commissioner."

SECTION 2.

Code Section 27-1-16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the establishment of a unit of conservation rangers within the Department of Natural Resources, is amended by striking subsection (b) and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (b) to read as follows:

~~"(b) After a conservation ranger has accumulated 25 years of service with the department as a peace officer and upon leaving such department under honorable conditions~~ When a conservation ranger leaves the department under honorable conditions and after accumulating 25 years of service with the department or as a result of a disability arising in the line of duty, such conservation ranger shall be entitled as part of his or her compensation to retain his or her weapon and badge pursuant to regulations promulgated by the commissioner."

SECTION 3.

Title 35 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to law enforcement officers and agencies, is amended by striking Code Section 35-2-49, relating to the provision of proper uniforms and equipment to members of the Uniform Division of the Department of Public Safety, and inserting in lieu thereof a new Code Section 35-2-49 to read as follows:

"35-2-49.

The commissioner shall, within the limit of the appropriation, provide the members of the Uniform Division of the Department of Public Safety with proper uniforms, suitable to the season, and also with emergency and first-aid outfits, weapons, motor vehicles with radio equipment, and all other necessary supplies and equipment for the purpose of carrying out this article, the same to remain the property of the state; provided, however, that ~~after a~~

1 ~~member has accumulated 25 years of service in the Uniform Division of the Department~~
2 ~~of Public Safety, upon leaving the division under honorable conditions~~ when a member
3 leaves the Uniform Division under honorable conditions and after accumulating 25 years
4 of service with the Uniform Division or as a result of a disability arising in the line of
5 duty, such member shall be entitled, as part of his or her compensation, to retain his or her
6 weapon and badge pursuant to regulations promulgated by the commissioner. The
7 commissioner shall also, within the limit of the appropriation, provide proper uniforms
8 and equipment to radio operators. After a radio operator has accumulated 25 years of
9 service with the department, upon leaving the department under honorable conditions,
10 such radio operator shall be entitled, as part of his or her compensation, to retain his or her
11 badge pursuant to regulations promulgated by the commissioner."

12 **SECTION 4.**

13 Said title is further amended by adding at the end of Code Section 35-3-11, relating to the
14 applicability to agents of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation of rules of the State Personnel
15 Board and state merit system, a new subsection (c) to read as follows:

16 "(c) When an agent of the bureau leaves the bureau under honorable conditions and after
17 accumulating 25 years of law enforcement service with the bureau or as a result of a
18 disability arising in the line of duty, such agent shall be entitled as part of such agent's
19 compensation to retain his or her weapon and badge pursuant to regulations promulgated
20 by the director."

21 **SECTION 5.**

22 Code Section 48-11-19 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the powers and
23 duties of special agents and enforcement officers of the Department of Revenue, is amended
24 by striking subsection (c) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (c) to
25 read as follows:

26 ~~"(c) After a special agent or enforcement officer has accumulated 25 years of service with~~
27 ~~the department, upon leaving the department under honorable conditions~~ When a special
28 agent or enforcement officer leaves the department under honorable conditions and after
29 accumulating 25 years of service with the department or as a result of a disability arising
30 in the line of duty, such special agent or enforcement officer shall be entitled as part of
31 such agent's or officer's compensation to retain his or her weapon and badge pursuant to
32 regulations promulgated by the commissioner."

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- SECTION 6.
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- All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.