

The House Committee on Public Safety offers the following substitute to HB 158:

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 as a result of a disability arising in the line of duty,
15 such agent shall be entitled as part of such agent's compensation to retain his or her weapon
16 and badge pursuant to regulations promulgated by the director of the Bureau of Investigation;
17 to amend Code Section 48-11-19 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
18 powers and duties of special agents and enforcement officers of the Department of Revenue,
19 so as to provide that certain special agents and enforcement officers of said department who
20 leave such department as a result of a disability arising in the line of duty may retain their
21 weapons and badges upon leaving the department; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
22 purposes.

23 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 inserting a new subsection to be designated subsection (e) to read as follows:

"(e) As used in this subsection the term 'disability' means a disability that prevents an individual from working as a law enforcement officer. When a special agent or enforcement officer leaves the department as a result of a disability arising in the line of duty, such special agent or enforcement officer shall be entitled as part of such officer's compensation to retain his or her weapon and badge in accordance with 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 inserting a new subsection (c) to read as follows:

"(c) As used in this subsection the term 'disability' means a disability that prevents an individual from working as a law enforcement officer. When a conservation ranger leaves the department as a result of a disability arising in the line of duty, such conservation ranger shall be entitled as part of such officer's compensation to retain his or her weapon and badge in accordance with 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 inserting a new Code Section 35-2-49.1 to read as follows:

"35-2-49.1.

(a) As used in this Code section the term 'disability' means a disability that prevents an individual from working as a law enforcement officer.

(b) When a member of the Uniform Division of the Department of Public Safety leaves the Uniform Division as a result of a disability arising in the line of duty, such member of the Uniform Division shall be entitled as part of such officer's compensation to retain his or her weapon and badge in accordance with regulations promulgated by the commissioner."

SECTION 4.

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

“(c) As used in this subsection, the term 'disability' means a disability that prevents an individual from working as a law enforcement officer. When an agent of the bureau leaves the bureau as a result of a disability arising in the line of duty, such agent shall be entitled as part of such agent’s compensation to retain his or her weapon and badge pursuant to regulations promulgated by the director.”

SECTION 5.

Code Section 48-11-19 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 inserting a new subsection (d) to read as follows:

"(d) As used in this subsection the term 'disability' means a disability that prevents an individual from working as a law enforcement officer. When a special agent or enforcement officer leaves the department as a result of a disability arising in the line of duty, such special agent or enforcement officer shall be entitled as part of such officer's compensation to retain his or her weapon and badge in accordance with regulations promulgated by the commissioner."

SECTION 6.

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