

Senate Bill 601

By: Senators Mullis of the 53rd and Thomas of the 54th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 5 of Title 35 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
2 Georgia Public Safety Training Center, so as to authorize the training center to provide
3 training for emergency medical personnel; to change certain provisions relating to the
4 Georgia Public Safety Training Center; to provide for related matters; to provide an effective
5 date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Chapter 5 of Title 35 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Georgia
9 Public Safety Training Center, is amended by striking Code Section 35-5-2, relating to the
10 board's authority to establish, operate, and maintain the Georgia Public Safety Training
11 Center, in its entirety and inserting in its place a new Code Section 35-5-2 to read as follows:
12 "35-5-2.

13 (a) The Board of Public Safety is authorized:

14 (1) To establish, operate, and maintain the Georgia Public Safety Training Center for the
15 purpose of providing facilities and programs for the training of state and local law
16 enforcement officers, firefighters, correctional personnel, emergency medical personnel,
17 and others; and

18 (2) To do all things and take any action necessary to accomplish such purpose, including,
19 but not limited to, the promulgation of rules and regulations relative thereto.

20 (b) The board is authorized and directed to select a site for the center.

21 (c) The board shall select the administrator of the center and establish the compensation
22 for the administrator.

23 (d) As used in this chapter, the term 'emergency medical personnel' includes emergency
24 medical technicians or emergency rescue specialists who are certified or seeking
25 certification as emergency medical technicians, paramedics, tactical emergency medical
26 officers, cardiac technicians, or other medical first responders under Chapter 11 of Title 31

1 and who are employed in the capacity for which they are certified or seeking certification
2 by a department, agency authority, or other instrumentality of the state or local
3 government."

4 SECTION 2.

5 Said chapter is further amended by striking Code Section 35-5-5, relating to the availability
6 of the center for use by state and local law enforcement officers, in its entirety and inserting
7 a new Code Section 35-5-5 to read as follows:

8 "35-5-5.

9 (a) Subject to such rules and regulations as shall be prescribed by the board, the facilities
10 of the center may be made available to all state and local law enforcement officers,
11 firefighters, emergency medical personnel, and correctional personnel and may also be
12 made available to other persons who evidence interest in entering the fields of law
13 enforcement, fire fighting, emergency medical services, or corrections.

14 (b) The board is authorized to prescribe and collect such fees as are necessary to defray
15 all or a portion of the cost of furnishing such training and the use of the facilities of the
16 center.

17 (c) The state and counties and municipalities of this state are authorized to expend funds
18 for the purpose of paying the fees assessed for use of the center. The board shall have the
19 authority to determine who shall be allowed to enroll and participate in the training
20 programs of the center and who shall be allowed to utilize the facilities of the center.

21 (d) Subject to such rules and regulations as shall be prescribed by the board, the Georgia
22 Public Safety Training Center shall have the following powers and duties in connection
23 with the training of peace officers, emergency medical personnel, and law enforcement
24 support personnel:

25 (1) To train instructors authorized to conduct training of peace officers, emergency
26 medical personnel, and law enforcement support personnel;

27 (2) To reimburse or provide for certain costs incurred in training peace officers,
28 emergency medical personnel, and law enforcement support personnel employed or
29 appointed by each agency, organ, or department of this state, counties, and municipalities
30 to the extent that funds are appropriated for such purpose by the General Assembly. In
31 the event sufficient funds are not appropriated for a fiscal year to fund the full cost
32 provided for in this paragraph, then the amount which would otherwise be payable shall
33 be reduced pro rata on the basis of the funds actually appropriated. As used in this
34 paragraph, the terms 'cost' and 'costs' shall not include travel or salaries of personnel
35 undergoing training and shall be limited exclusively to the cost of tuition, meals, and
36 lodging which are incurred in connection with such training;

(3) To expend funds appropriated or otherwise available to the center for paying the costs of training provided under subsection (a) of Code Section 35-8-20, other than travel expenses and salaries of police chiefs or department heads of law enforcement units and wardens of state institutions undergoing training, and shall expend such funds for purposes of compensating a training officer to administer the course of training and conduct any business associated with the training provisions of said Code Section 35-8-20;

(4) To expend funds appropriated or otherwise available to the center for paying the costs of training provided for under subsection (a) of Code Section 35-8-20.1, other than travel expenses and salaries of police chiefs or department heads of law enforcement units undergoing training, and shall expend such funds for purposes of compensating a training officer to administer the course of training and conduct any business associated with the training provisions of said Code Section 35-8-20.1; and

(5) To expend funds appropriated or otherwise available to the center for paying the costs of training provided for under Chapter 11 of Title 31 for the initial certification training and continued training as needed by emergency medical personnel and shall expend such funds for purposes of compensating a training officer to administer the course of training and conduct any business associated with the training provisions of said chapter; and

~~(5)~~(6) To administer and coordinate the training for communications officers with respect to the requirements of Code Section 35-8-23. The board shall be authorized to promulgate rules and regulations to facilitate the administration and coordination of training consistent with the provisions of said Code Section 35-8-23. The tuition costs of the training of communications officers shall be paid from funds appropriated to the center."

SECTION 3.

This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2006.

SECTION 4.

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