

HOUSE SUBSTITUTE TO SENATE BILL 520

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 2 of Chapter 2 of Title 35 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to the Georgia State Patrol, so as to authorize the Board of Public Safety to provide
3 a badge and duty weapon to sworn officers as compensation under certain circumstances; to
4 authorize the commissioner to provide certain uniforms and equipment to all sworn members
5 of the Department of Public Safety; to change certain provisions relating to the provision of
6 uniforms and equipment to members of the Uniform Division and the retention of weapons
7 and badges upon retirement of certain members; to provide for related matters; to provide an
8 effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

10 **SECTION 1.**

11 Article 2 of Chapter 2 of Title 35 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
12 Georgia State Patrol, is amended by striking subsection (c) of Code Section 35-2-42, relating
13 to compensation of members of the Uniform Division, communications officers, recruits, and
14 cadets, and inserting a new subsection (c) to read as follows:

15 "(c) The board shall be authorized to pay to ~~officers, noncommissioned officers, and~~
16 ~~troopers of the Uniform Division~~ sworn members of the Department of Public Safety
17 additional compensation to be paid upon retirement in the form of the badge and the
18 ~~revolver~~ duty weapon issued by the department to such member ~~officer, noncommissioned~~
19 ~~officer, or trooper."~~

20 **SECTION 2.**

21 Said article is further amended by striking Code Section 35-2-49, relating to the provision
22 of uniforms and equipment to members of the Uniform Division and radio operators and
23 retention of weapons and badges upon retirement, in its entirety and inserting a new Code
24 Section 35-2-49 to read as follows:

1 "35-2-49.
 2 The commissioner shall, within the limit of the appropriation, provide the sworn members
 3 of the ~~Uniform Division~~ of the Department of Public Safety with proper uniforms, suitable
 4 to the season, and also with emergency and first-aid outfits, weapons, motor vehicles with
 5 radio equipment, and all other necessary supplies and equipment for the purpose of
 6 carrying out this article, the same to remain the property of the state; provided, however,
 7 that after a sworn member has accumulated ~~25~~ 15 years of service with in the Uniform
 8 Division of the Department of Public Safety, including prior service with the Department
 9 of Motor Vehicle Safety, Georgia Public Service Commission, Georgia Department of
 10 Transportation, or Georgia Building Authority, upon leaving the division department under
 11 honorable conditions, or upon leaving the department as a result of a disability arising in
 12 the line of duty regardless of the number of years of service, such member shall be entitled,
 13 as part of his or her compensation, to retain his or her weapon and badge pursuant to
 14 regulations promulgated by the commissioner. The commissioner shall also, within the
 15 limit of the appropriation, provide proper uniforms and equipment to radio operators. After
 16 a radio operator has accumulated ~~25~~ 15 years of service with the department, including
 17 prior service with the Georgia Department of Motor Vehicle Safety, Georgia Public Service
 18 Commission, Georgia Department of Transportation, or Georgia Building Authority, upon
 19 leaving the department under honorable conditions, such radio operator shall be entitled,
 20 as part of his or her compensation, to retain his or her badge pursuant to regulations
 21 promulgated by the commissioner."

22 **SECTION 3.**

23 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
 24 without such approval.

25 **SECTION 4.**

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