

The Senate Transportation Committee offered the following substitute to HB 827:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 1 of Article 5 of Chapter 9 of Title 45 of the Official Code of Georgia  
2 Annotated, relating to Georgia State Indemnification Fund, so as to provide that, in the case  
3 of death or organic brain damage suffered in the line of duty by a law enforcement officer,  
4 firefighter, emergency medical technician, emergency management specialist, state highway  
5 employee, or prison guard, if such person does not have an unremarried spouse or  
6 dependents, the indemnification payment shall be made to the parents or siblings of such  
7 person; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date and applicability; to  
8 repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

10 SECTION 1.

11 Part 1 of Article 5 of Chapter 9 of Title 45 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
12 relating to Georgia State Indemnification Fund, is amended in Code Section 45-9-85, relating  
13 to payment of indemnification for death or disability, procedure for making of payments, and  
14 appeal, by revising subsection (a) as follows:

15 "(a) Indemnification shall be paid under this article as follows:

16 (1) In the case of a partial permanent disability suffered in the line of duty by a law  
17 enforcement officer, firefighter, emergency medical technician, emergency management  
18 rescue specialist, state highway employee, or prison guard, the eligible disabled person  
19 may elect payment of \$35,000.00 paid in equal monthly installments for five years or a  
20 lump sum of such amount reduced to its present value upon the basis of interest  
21 calculated at the rate of 6 percent per annum;

22 ~~(2) In the case of a partial permanent disability suffered in the line of duty by a state~~  
23 ~~highway employee, the eligible person may elect to receive a payment of \$12,000.00 paid~~  
24 ~~in equal monthly installments for five years or a lump sum of such amount reduced to its~~  
25 ~~present value upon the basis of interest calculated at the rate of 6 percent per annum;~~

26 ~~(3)~~(2) In the case of a total permanent disability suffered in the line of duty by a law  
 27 enforcement officer, firefighter, emergency medical technician, emergency management  
 28 rescue specialist, state highway employee, or prison guard, the injured person may elect  
 29 to receive a payment of \$75,000.00 paid in equal monthly installments for five years or  
 30 a lump sum of such amount reduced to its present value upon the basis of interest  
 31 calculated at the rate of 6 percent per annum; or

32 ~~(4) In the case of a total permanent disability suffered in the line of duty by a state  
 33 highway employee, the eligible person may elect to receive a payment of \$25,000.00 paid  
 34 in equal monthly installments for five years or a lump sum of such amount reduced to its  
 35 present value upon the basis of interest calculated at the rate of 6 percent per annum;~~

36 ~~(5)~~(3) In the case of death or organic brain damage suffered in the line of duty by a law  
 37 enforcement officer, firefighter, emergency medical technician, emergency management  
 38 specialist, state highway employee, or prison guard, payment shall be made to the  
 39 surviving unremarried spouse or the dependents of the spouse or deceased person as  
 40 shown in his or her most recent tax return, to such person's parents if such person does  
 41 not have an unremarried spouse or dependents, to his or her surviving siblings if such  
 42 person has no surviving parents, or to the legal guardian of the organically brain damaged  
 43 person. The surviving unremarried spouse, dependents, parents, siblings, or the legal  
 44 guardian may elect to receive payment in a lump sum payment of \$100,000.00 paid in  
 45 equal monthly installments for five years or a lump sum of such amount reduced to its  
 46 present value upon the basis of interest calculated at the rate of 6 percent per annum; ~~or~~  
 47 ~~(6) In the case of death or organic brain damage suffered in the line of duty by a state  
 48 highway employee, payment shall be made to the surviving unremarried spouse or the  
 49 dependents of the spouse or deceased person as shown in his or her most recent tax return  
 50 or to the legal guardian of the organically brain damaged person. The surviving  
 51 unremarried spouse, dependents, or the legal guardian may elect to receive payment in  
 52 a lump sum payment of \$40,000.00 paid in equal monthly installments for five years or  
 53 a lump sum of such amount reduced to its present value upon the basis of interest  
 54 calculated at the rate of 6 percent per annum."~~

## 55 SECTION 2.

56 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law  
 57 without such approval and shall apply to all claims filed or pending on and after such date.

## 58 SECTION 3.

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