

House Bill 156

By: Representatives Cheokas of the 134th, Meadows of the 5th, Roberts of the 154th, England of the 108th, Bearden of the 68th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 45-9-85 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 payment for indemnification for death or disability, procedure for making of payments, and
3 appeal, so as to change provisions relative to the indemnification of injured state highway
4 employees; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 SECTION 1.

7 Code Section 45-9-85 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to payment for
8 indemnification for death or disability, procedure for making of payments, and appeal, is
9 amended by revising subsection (a) as follows:

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

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

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

21 ~~(3)~~(2) In the case of a total permanent disability suffered in the line of duty by a law
22 enforcement officer, firefighter, emergency medical technician, emergency management
23 rescue specialist, state highway employee, or prison guard, the injured person may elect
24 to receive a payment of \$75,000.00 paid in equal monthly installments for five years or
25 a lump sum of such amount reduced to its present value upon the basis of interest
26 calculated at the rate of 6 percent per annum; or

27 ~~(4) In the case of a total permanent disability suffered in the line of duty by a state~~
 28 ~~highway employee, the eligible person may elect to receive a payment of \$25,000.00 paid~~
 29 ~~in equal monthly installments for five years or a lump sum of such amount reduced to its~~
 30 ~~present value upon the basis of interest calculated at the rate of 6 percent per annum;~~
 31 ~~(5)(3) In the case of death or organic brain damage suffered in the line of duty by a law~~
 32 ~~enforcement officer, firefighter, emergency medical technician, emergency management~~
 33 ~~specialist, state highway employee, or prison guard, payment shall be made to the~~
 34 ~~surviving unremarried spouse or the dependents of the spouse or deceased person as~~
 35 ~~shown in his or her most recent tax return or to the legal guardian of the organically brain~~
 36 ~~damaged person. The surviving unremarried spouse, dependents, or the legal guardian~~
 37 ~~may elect to receive payment in a lump sum payment of \$100,000.00 paid in equal~~
 38 ~~monthly installments for five years or a lump sum of such amount reduced to its present~~
 39 ~~value upon the basis of interest calculated at the rate of 6 percent per annum; or~~
 40 ~~(6) In the case of death or organic brain damage suffered in the line of duty by a state~~
 41 ~~highway employee, payment shall be made to the surviving unremarried spouse or the~~
 42 ~~dependents of the spouse or deceased person as shown in his or her most recent tax return~~
 43 ~~or to the legal guardian of the organically brain damaged person. The surviving~~
 44 ~~unremarried spouse, dependents, or the legal guardian may elect to receive payment in~~
 45 ~~a lump sum payment of \$40,000.00 paid in equal monthly installments for five years or~~
 46 ~~a lump sum of such amount reduced to its present value upon the basis of interest~~
 47 ~~calculated at the rate of 6 percent per annum."~~

48 **SECTION 2.**

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

51 **SECTION 3.**

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