

House Bill 107 (AM)

By: Representatives Ralston of the 7<sup>th</sup>, Bearden of the 68<sup>th</sup>, Parsons of the 42<sup>nd</sup>, Powell of the 171<sup>st</sup>, Purcell of the 159<sup>th</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 45-18-9 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the  
2 right of continuation of health coverage for a spouse or dependent of a deceased public  
3 employee, so as to provide that the surviving spouse and dependents of a state public safety  
4 employee or Department of Transportation employee killed while acting in the scope of his  
5 or her employment shall be entitled to continue coverage under the state health insurance  
6 plan under certain conditions; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date;  
7 to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 SECTION 1.

10 Code Section 45-18-9 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the right of  
11 continuation of health coverage for a spouse or dependent of a deceased public employee,  
12 is amended by revising subsection (e) as follows:

13 "(e) If any employee of this state is killed while acting within the scope of his or her  
14 employment or receives bodily injury while acting within the scope of his or her  
15 employment that directly results in death thereafter, eligible dependents may continue  
16 coverage, provided that:

17 (1) The deceased employee was the primary or principal beneficiary of any contract or  
18 contracts for health insurance established under this part;

19 (2) At the time of death, the employee included his or her eligible dependents under such  
20 contract or contracts for health insurance;

21 (3) At the time of death, the employee maintained continuous coverage during the period  
22 between injury and death;

23 (4) The eligible dependents agree to pay the contributions to the cost of such coverage;  
24 and

25 (5) The eligible dependents pay such contributions in accordance with the rules and  
26 regulations promulgated and adopted by the board governing the continuance,

27 discontinuance, and resumption of coverage by such eligible dependents; provided,  
28 however, that, on and after the effective date of this clause, any eligible dependents of a  
29 deceased public safety employee or Department of Transportation employee killed in the  
30 line of duty who are receiving continued coverage or who elect to continue coverage  
31 pursuant to this subsection shall be entitled to continue such coverage under the health  
32 insurance plan established pursuant to this part upon agreeing to pay contributions at the  
33 same rate as required for state employees and in compliance with the rules and  
34 regulations governing such coverage."

35 **SECTION 2.**

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

38 **SECTION 3.**

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