



DEPARTMENT OF AUDITS AND ACCOUNTS

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February 2, 2022

The Honorable Randy Robertson
State Senator
Coverdell Legislative Office Building, Room 305-A
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

SUBJECT: State Auditor's Certification

Substitute to Senate Bill 84
(LC 43 2217S)

Dear Chairman Robertson:

This substitute bill would amend provisions relating to membership in the Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund. If this legislation is enacted, certain communications officers would be eligible to join the Fund. Eligibility for membership would be afforded to communications officers who:

- Are employed by the state or by a local governmental agency to receive, process, or transmit public safety information and dispatch law enforcement officers, firefighters, medical personnel, or emergency management personnel, and
- Are certified or maintain compliance with rules and regulations prescribed by the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council with respect to their position as a communications officer.

Such new members would be covered under the current provisions for the Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund relating to membership, creditable service, and eligibility for benefits. However, they would not be entitled to earn creditable service for prior service as a communications officer prior to July 1, 2022.

This substitute bill would also amend provisions within Chapter 3 of Title 38 of the Official Code of Georgia. Specifically, this substitute bill would provide for a portion of the 9-1-1 charges collected by the Department of Revenue to be remitted to the Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund to cover costs associated with the addition of communications officers into the Fund. Currently, the Department of Revenue retains one percent of the fees received. This is to offset the administrative costs of receiving and disbursing of such fees. If this legislation is enacted, the Department of Revenue would only retain

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.25 percent of the fees collected. The other .75 percent would be remitted to the Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund.

This is to certify that this substitute bill is a reduction in cost amendment as defined in the Public Retirement System Standards Law. A revised actuarial investigation and State Auditor's Certification are attached for Senate Bill 84 (LC 43 2217S).

Respectfully,

Greg S. Griffin State
Auditor

GSG/cs