



STATE FOP 1989 LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

L.S. Johnson, Chairman Legislative Committee
John H. Thomas, Governmental Affairs Rep.

January 27th, 1989 10th Legislative Day

Fraternal Order of Police Resolutions Delivered to Leadership

Resolutions passed at the Winter Conference by the FOP encouraging the Governor, Lt. Governor and Speaker of the House to support passage of Legislation beneficial to Local Law Enforcement have been delivered. The two Resolutions; supporting H.B. 429 (Exemption of Local Retirement Pay from State Income Taxation and a bill requiring Local Departments to provide at least 180 days of continued pay for a police officer injured in the line of duty) are our way of communicating as an organization to the leadership of the State.

Rep. Tom Buck (D) Columbus Introduces Income Tax Exemption Bill

Rep. Buck of Columbus introduced H.B. 429 on the 9th Legislative day of the Georgia General Assembly. Buck stated that there were already 12 classes of employment exempted by Ga. Law which allows for local retirement pay to be exempted from State Income Taxation.

Title 48-7-27 (4) allows State Employees, Ga. Firemen Pension Fund and Local firemen's pension funds, Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund, Trial Judges and Solicitors Retirement Fund, Superior Court Clerks' Retirement Fund, Public School Employees Teachers and local teacher retirement funds, GA. Legislators Retirement, Superior Court Judges Retirement System and District Attorneys' Retirement System payments to be exempted from State Income Taxation.

H.B. 429 would include Local Police Retirement Payments. The Fiscal Impact of such an exemption will have to be completed by the State Auditor prior to any action being taken upon this bill by the House Ways and Means Committee. Preliminary indications are that such legislation would have minimal impact upon the State Revenues. This benefit would give approximately a \$60 per year reduction in State Income Taxes for a retired police officer, married filing a joint return where his local retirement pay was \$1,000 per month.

H.B. 429 was assigned to the Ways and Means Committee for study and action. Members of the State Ways and Means Committee are:

WAYS AND MEANS

Terry Coleman, Eastman- Chairman
Tom Crosby, Waycross- Vice Chairman
Richard Royal, Camilla - Secretary
Betty Aaron, Decatur
Marvin Adams, Thomaston
Roy Allen, Savannah
Ralph J. Balkcom, Blakely
Bill Barnett, Cummings
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George Chance, Springfield
Bill Cummings, Rockmart

Bill Dover, Clarkesville
John Godbee, Brooklet
Bobby Harris, Thomson
Bob Holmes, Atlanta
George Hooks, Americus
Jack Kingston, Savannah
Bubba McDonald, Commerce
Wade Milam, LaGrange
James Moore, West Green
Jim Pannell, Savannah
Pete Robinson, Columbus
Mike Snow, Chickamauga
Frank Stancil, Watkinsonville

Contact the members of this committee in your area and explain how this bill would benefit our retired members. Encourage them to move HB 429 out of their Committee to allow the entire House of Representatives to vote on it.

(Please let us know those you have contacted)

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Other Bills of Interest

HB 32, Isakson, Marietta. Provides criminal penalties for giving a false DOB to police officer Introduced on 1/9 and assigned to Special Judiciary Committee.

HB 40 Rep Lane, East Point. Provides for drivers license records at no charge for pre-employment be available to local police departments Introduced on 1/9 and assigned to Motor Vehicle Committee

HB 115, Rep Porter, Dublin and others. Provides for changes in Annuity/Benefits if spouse dies. Introduced on 1/10 and assigned to Retirement Committee

HB 329, Rep Thomas, Temple and others. Provides for authorization for the State Patrol to close highways in emergencies. Introduced 1/24 and assigned to Public Safety Committee (passed PSCCommittee 1/26) to House for Vote.

HB 429, Rep. Buck, Columbus and others. Provides for exemption of local retirement pay from State Income Tax. Introduced 1/26 and assigned to Ways and Means Committee

SB 22, Sen. Allgood, Augusta. Provides for public safety officers to recover in torts for injuries sustained as a results of negligent acts of others. Introduced 1/10 and assigned to Senate Judiciary.

SB 23, Sen. Broun, Athens. Provides for the seizure of property by State and Local Agencies when used in a crime. Introduced 1/10 and assigned to Judiciary.

Members of Public Safety Committees

Senate

Rooney L. Bowen, Cordele - Chairman
Ed Perry, Nashville - Vice Chairman
Gary Parker, Columbus - Secretary
Max Brannon, Calhoun
J.B. "Jake" Pollard, Appling
Jimmy Hodge Timmons, Blakely

House

Ralph Twiggs, Hiawassee - Chr. Barbara Couch, Hapeville
David Lucas, Macon - Vice Chr. Grace Davis, Atlanta
Bill Jackson, Martinez - Sec. Gresham Howren, Powder Springs
Dean Alford, Lithonia Curtis Jenkins, Forsyth
Bill Barnett, Cummings Leonard Meadows, Manchester
Luther Colbert, Roswell John Mobley, Winder
Terry Coleman, Eastman Steve Stancil, Canton
Tommy Tolbert, Clarkston

How to Address Letters to Your Elected Officials.

Senator NAME
Georgia Senate
State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Representative Name
GA. House of Representatives
State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334