

2017-2018 General Assembly

## SENATE BILL 99: Appropriations Act of 2018, Sec. 35.18: Statutory Authority Regarding Certain Law Enforcement Officer Benefits

Committee:		Date:	August 15, 2018
Introduced by:		Prepared by:	Erika Churchill
Analysis of:	Sec. 35.18 of S.L. 2018-5		Staff Attorney

**OVERVIEW:** Section 35.18 of S.L. 2018-5 adds sworn law enforcement officers with the power of arrest in the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources to the list of officers eligible for the salary continuation plan if that officer is incapacitated in the line of duty due to violence, resistance or other special hazards that occur while performing official duties, effective June 12, 2018.

**CURRENT LAW:** For certain law enforcement officers employed by the State, who are subject to the Criminal Justice Training and Standards Act, the base salary that law enforcement officer is paid as long as employment in that position continues, notwithstanding the law enforcement officer's total or partial incapacity to perform any duties to which that officer may be lawfully assigned if that incapacity is the result of an injury or injuries resulting from or arising out of an episode of violence, resistance, or due to other special hazards that occur while performing official duties. However, if the incapacity continues for more than two years from its inception, the law enforcement officer is, during the further continuance of that incapacity, subject to the workers' compensation laws under the General Statutes.

The time period for which an eligible law enforcement officer receives base salary benefits is deducted from the eligible person's total eligibility for workers' compensation benefits under the general statutes. The base salary benefit paid to an eligible law enforcement officer ceases upon the resumption of regularly assigned duties; assignment of duties which comply with the treating physician's restrictions; or retirement, resignation, or death, whichever first occurs. Additionally, the base salary benefits cease, or are equitably reduced, when the law enforcement officer returns to work for the same or a different employer.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** The section adds sworn law enforcement officers with the power of arrest in the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources to the list of officers eligible for the salary continuation plan if that officer is incapacitated in the line of duty due to violence, resistance or other special hazards that occur while performing official duties.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This section became effective June 12, 2018.

Karen Cochrane-Brown Director S99-SMST-111(s1)-v-4

Legislative Analysis Division 919-733-2578

This bill analysis was prepared by the nonpartisan legislative staff for the use of legislators in their deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.