- 1 HB112
- 2 125417-3
- 3 By Representative Johnson (R)
- 4 RFD: County and Municipal Government
- 5 First Read: 01-MAR-11

1	ENGROSSED
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4	A BILL
5	TO BE ENTITLED
6	AN ACT
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8	To amend Sections 36-30-20, 36-30-21, 36-30-22, and
9	36-30-23, Code of Alabama 1975, relating to the eligibility
10	for death or disability benefits of certain municipal
11	policemen and state law enforcement officers; to further
12	provide for the definition of law enforcement officer to
13	include any law enforcement officer in this state and to
14	further define occupational disease; and in connection
15	therewith would have as its purpose or effect the requirement
16	of a new or increased expenditure of local funds within the
17	meaning of Amendment 621 of the Constitution of Alabama of
18	1901.
19	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:
20	Section 1. Sections 36-30-20, 36-30-21, 36-30-22,
21	and 36-30-23, Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to read as
22	follows:
23	"§36-30-20.
24	"When used in this article, the following terms
25	shall have the following meanings, respectively, unless the
26	context clearly indicates otherwise:

"(1) CITY. Any municipality of the state, regardless

of its population; provided, however, that such term shall not

include any municipality in any county having a population in

excess of 600,000 according to the last federal decennial

census.

"(2) POLICEMAN. A person employed as a policeman or other law enforcement officer by a city.

"(3) STATE TROOPER. State trooper, highway
patrolman, crime investigation officer, driver's license
examiner or other police officer personnel of the Alabama
Department of Public Safety or law enforcement officer
employed by the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, those
officers of the Department of Conservation and Natural
Resources designated as conservation enforcement officers.

"(6) (1) BENEFIT. Any monetary allowance payable to a law enforcement officer by a city or county or by the state or from a pension system established for the policemen law enforcement officers of a city or county or the state or, in the case of a state trooper, from the state Employees'

Retirement System to a policeman or state trooper on account of his or her disability or to his or her dependents on account of his or her death, irrespective of whether the same is payable under a pension law of the state or under some other law of the state.

"(5) (2) DISABILITY. Disability to perform duties as a policeman or state trooper law enforcement officer.

1	"(3) LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER. A full-time law
2	enforcement officer with the power of arrest who is employed
3	with any state agency, department, board, commission, or
4	institution or a full-time law enforcement officer employed by
5	any municipality or county within this state.
6	"(4) POLICEMAN'S <u>LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER'S</u>
7	OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE. Any condition or impairment of health
8	caused by hypertension, heart disease or respiratory disease.
9	any of the following:
10	"a. Hypertension.
11	"b. Heart disease.
12	"c. Respiratory disease.
13	"d. Cancer which manifests itself in a law
14	enforcement officer during the period in which the law
15	enforcement officer is in the service of the city, county, or
16	state, provided the law enforcement officer demonstrates by
17	sufficient evidence that he or she was exposed, while in the
18	employ of the city, county, or state to a known carcinogen
19	which is reasonably linked to the disabling cancer, unless the
20	employing entity demonstrates by sufficient evidence that the
21	cancer may have been caused by some other means.
22	"e. AIDS HIV which manifests itself in a law
23	enforcement officer during the period in which the law
24	enforcement officer is in the service of the city, county, or
25	state, provided the law enforcement officer demonstrates by
26	sufficient evidence that he or she was exposed to AIDS HIV

while in the line and scope or his or her employment with the employing entity unless the employing entity demonstrates by sufficient evidence that the AIDS HIV may have been caused by some other means.

enforcement officer during the period in which the law enforcement officer is in the service of the city, county, or state, provided the law enforcement officer demonstrates by sufficient evidence that he or she was exposed to hepatitis while in the line and scope of his or her employment with the employing entity unless the employing entity demonstrates by sufficient evidence that the hepatitis may have been caused by some other means."

"§36-30-21.

"(a) If a policeman or state trooper law enforcement officer who qualifies for benefits under the provisions of this article suffers disability as a result of a policeman's law enforcement officer's occupational disease, his or her disability shall be compensable the same as any service-connected disability under any law which provides benefits for policemen the law enforcement officer of such municipality, or, if a state trooper law enforcement officer, under the state Employees' Retirement System, the same as if injured in the line of duty. If a policeman or state trooper law enforcement officer who qualifies for benefits under the provisions of this article dies as a result of a policeman's

law enforcement officer's occupational disease, his or her

death shall be compensable to the same extent as the death of

a policeman or state trooper law enforcement officer killed in

the line of duty; provided, that this article shall not apply

to any municipality which has elected to be covered by the

workers' compensation laws of this state.

"(b) In order to qualify for benefits under the

- "(b) In order to qualify for benefits under the provisions of this article based on a law enforcement officer's occupational disease caused by cancer, AIDS HIV, or hepatitis, the law enforcement officer shall demonstrate by sufficient evidence all of the following:
- "(1) That the disease was caused by significant exposure to an agent known to cause the disease according to current medical literature and research.
 - "(2) The exposure occurred while the claimant was acting in the line and scope of employment as a law enforcement officer.
- "(3) The exposure to the causative agent must be in excess of that experienced by the general population.

"Any sudden exposure to a causative agent from a single event shall be reported by a claimant to his or her supervisor within five days of the occurrence of exposure if it is reasonable to believe the claimant was aware of both his or her exposure to the agent and of the hazardous and harmful effects of the sudden exposure to the agent.

"If an occupational disease results from long term exposure to a causative agent, rather than from a single event, a claimant shall notify his or her supervisor, within 90 days of a conclusive medical diagnosis of the occupational disease and the determination by a medical doctor that the diagnosis is, or may be, linked to the exposure.

"§36-30-22.

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"The provisions of this article shall apply to policemen a law enforcement officer who, upon entering the service of the city or county as policemen a law enforcement officer, have has successfully passed a physical examination which failed to reveal any evidence of a policeman's law enforcement officer's occupational disease and who have has completed at least three years' service as a policeman law enforcement officer, provided a physical examination was required at the time of entry into service, and shall apply to a state trooper law enforcement officer who, upon entering the service of the state as a state trooper law enforcement officer, successfully passed a physical examination which failed to reveal any evidence of a policeman's law enforcement officer's occupational disease and who has completed no less than three years' service as a state trooper law enforcement officer.

"\$36-30-23.

"(a) If a physical examination was not required at the time of entry into service, a policeman or state trooper

who has had at least three years' continuous service as a policeman or state trooper next preceding September 8, 1967, shall be deemed eligible for benefits under the provisions of this article.

"(b) If a physical examination was not required at the time of entry into service, a law enforcement officer who became covered by this article pursuant to the act adding this subsection who has had at least three years' continuous service as a law enforcement officer next preceding the effective date of this amendatory act, shall be eligible for benefits under the provisions of this article provided the eligibility requirements as provided in subdivision (4) of Section 36-30-20 are met.

(c) The provisions of this article shall not affect or modify the Workers' Compensation Law except that no county or municipal law enforcement officer who receives benefits under this article may receive benefits under the Workers'

Compensation Law for the same occupational disease."

Section 2. This act shall become effective on the first day of the third month following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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3	House of Representatives
4 5 6 7 8	Read for the first time and re- ferred to the House of Representa- tives committee on County and Mu- nicipal Government
9 10 11	Read for the second time and placed on the calendar 2 amendments 24-MAR-11
12 13 14	Read for the third time and passed as amended 05-MAY-11 Yeas 87, Nays 1, Abstains 0
15 16 17 18	Greg Pappas Clerk