## GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA 1997 SESSION

## S.L. 1997-144 SENATE BILL 673

AN ACT TO AMEND THE DEFINITION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER FOR PURPOSES OF ELIGIBILITY FOR BENEFITS UNDER THE LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 128-21(11b) reads as rewritten:

"(11b) 'Law Enforcement Officer' means a full-time paid employee of an employer who is actively serving in a position with assigned primary duties and responsibilities for prevention and detection of crime or for the general enforcement of the criminal laws of the State or for serving civil processes, and who possesses the power of arrest by virtue of an oath administered under the authority of the State. employer, who possesses the power of arrest, who has taken the law enforcement oath administered under the authority of the State as prescribed by G.S. 11-11, and who is certified as a law enforcement officer under the provisions of Chapter 17C of the General Statutes or certified as a deputy sheriff under the provisions of Chapter 17E of the General Statutes. 'Law enforcement officer' also means the sheriff of the county. The number of paid personnel employed as law enforcement officers by a law enforcement agency may not exceed the number of law enforcement positions approved by the applicable local governing board."

Section 2. G.S. 143-166.50(a)(3) reads as rewritten:

"(3) 'Law-enforcement officer' means a full-time paid employee of an employer, who is actively serving in a position with assigned primary duties and responsibilities for prevention and detection of crime or the general enforcement of the criminal laws of the State or serving civil processes, and who possesses the power of arrest by virtue of an oath administered under the authority of the State. possesses the power of arrest, who has taken the law enforcement oath administered under the authority of the State as prescribed by G.S. 11-11, and who is certified as a law enforcement officer under the provisions of Chapter 17C of the General Statutes or certified as a deputy sheriff under the provisions of Chapter 17E of the General Statutes. 'Law enforcement officer' also means the sheriff of the county. The number of paid

personnel employed as law enforcement officers by a law enforcement agency may not exceed the number of law enforcement positions approved by the applicable local governing board."

Section 3. This act becomes effective July 1, 1997, and applies to all persons enrolled in the Local Governmental Employees' Retirement System on or after that date. In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 27th day of May, 1997.

s/ Dennis A. Wicker President of the Senate

s/ Harold J. Brubaker Speaker of the House of Representatives

s/ James B. Hunt, Jr. Governor

Approved 3:36 p.m. this 4th day of June, 1997