

House Bill 434

By: Representatives Powell of the 32<sup>nd</sup>, Jasperse of the 11<sup>th</sup>, Ballinger of the 23<sup>rd</sup>, Hitchens of the 161<sup>st</sup>, Taylor of the 173<sup>rd</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 60 of Title 36 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 general provisions applicable to counties and municipal corporations, so as to require  
3 counties and municipal corporations to continue, under certain circumstances, contracts for  
4 health insurance for spouses or dependents of peace officers who are killed or who otherwise  
5 die while acting within the scope of their employment; to provide for a definition; to provide  
6 for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Chapter 60 of Title 36 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general  
10 provisions applicable to counties and municipal corporations, is amended by adding a new  
11 Code section to read as follows:

12 "36-60-28.

13 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'peace officer' means any person who by virtue  
14 of his or her office or public employment is vested by law with a duty to maintain public  
15 order or to make arrests for offenses, whether that duty extends to all crimes or is limited  
16 to specific offenses.

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17 (b) If any peace officer employed by a county or municipal corporation is killed or  
18 otherwise dies while acting within the scope of his or her employment or receives bodily  
19 injury while acting within the scope of his or her employment that directly results in death  
20 thereafter and at the time of death or injury is the primary or principal beneficiary of a  
21 contract for health insurance offered by such county or municipal corporation, any spouse  
22 or dependent child or children included in the coverage of such contract for health  
23 insurance, or any unborn child or children in gestation at the time of death of such peace  
24 officer, shall, for a period of at least six months after such death, be entitled to continue or  
25 to gain such coverage as if such peace officer remains an employee of such county or  
26 municipal corporation, provided that payments of contributions to the cost of such coverage  
27 are paid."

28

**SECTION 2.**

29 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.