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CAMPBELLOST VIRGINIA SECRETARY OF STATE

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

**SECOND REGULAR SESSION, 2004** 

# ENROLLED

# FOR House Bill No. 4536

(By Delegates Stemple, Varner, Swartzmiller, Staton, Kominar, Michael and Amores)

Passed March 13, 2004

In Effect Ninety Days from Passage

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OFFICE WEST VIRGINIA SECRETARY OF STATE

### ENROLLED

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

**FOR** 

## H. B. 4536

(BY DELEGATES STEMPLE, VARNER, SWARTZMILLER, STATON, KOMINAR, MICHAEL AND AMORES)

[Passed March 13, 2004; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend the code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, by adding thereto a new article, designated §15-10A-1, §15-10A-2, §15-10A-3, §15-10A-4, §15-10A-5 and §15-10A-6, all relating to establishing the law-enforcement re-employment act; legislative findings; authorizing the re-employment of retired county and municipality law-enforcement officers, and division of natural resource law-enforcement officers; examination requirements; coverage for illness or injury; ineligibility for contributions to pensions; and employment status, civil service and retirement benefits.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That the code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new article, designated §15-10A-1, §15-10A-2,

- 6 this article must be certified pursuant to article twenty-nine,
- 7 chapter thirty.
- 8 (b) Any person re-employed pursuant to the provisions of
- 9 this article shall:
- 10 (1) Receive the same compensation as a regularly enlisted 11 officer of the same rank:
- 12 (2) Receive credit for all years of service accrued prior to
- 13 their retirement, as well as service rendered after the date of
- 14 their re-employment;
- 15 (3) Exercise the same authority as a regularly enlisted
- 16 officer of the law-enforcement agency:
- 17 (4) Wear the same uniform and insignia;
- 18 (5) Be subject to the same oath;
- 19 (6) Execute the same bond; and
- 20 (7) Exercise the same powers and be subject to the same
- 21 limitations as a regularly enlisted officer of the law-enforce-
- 22 ment agency.
- 23 (c) A person re-employed pursuant to the provisions of this
- 24 article is ineligible for promotion or reclassification of any type
- 25 nor eligible for appointment to a temporary rank.
- 26 (d) A person re-employed pursuant to the provisions of this
- 27 article may be employed for a period not to exceed two years
- 28 from the date on which he or she is hired.
- (e) As used in this article:
- 30 (1) "Law-enforcement officer" or "officer" means: (A) Any
- 31 sheriff and any deputy sheriff of any county; (B) any member

- 6 this article must be certified pursuant to article twenty-nine,
- 7 chapter thirty.
- 8 (b) Any person re-employed pursuant to the provisions of
- 9 this article shall:
- 10 (1) Receive the same compensation as a regularly enlisted 11 officer of the same rank:
- 12 (2) Receive credit for all years of service accrued prior to
- 13 their retirement, as well as service rendered after the date of
- 14 their re-employment;
- 15 (3) Exercise the same authority as a regularly enlisted
- 16 officer of the law-enforcement agency;
- 17 (4) Wear the same uniform and insignia;
- 18 (5) Be subject to the same oath;
- (6) Execute the same bond; and
- 20 (7) Exercise the same powers and be subject to the same
- 21 limitations as a regularly enlisted officer of the law-enforce-
- 22 ment agency.
- 23 (c) A person re-employed pursuant to the provisions of this
- 24 article is ineligible for promotion or reclassification of any type
- 25 nor eligible for appointment to a temporary rank.
- 26 (d) A person re-employed pursuant to the provisions of this
- 27 article may be employed for a period not to exceed two years
- 28 from the date on which he or she is hired.
- (e) As used in this article:
- 30 (1) "Law-enforcement officer" or "officer" means: (A) Any
- 31 sheriff and any deputy sheriff of any county; (B) any member

- 32 of a police department in any municipality as defined in section
- 33 two, article one, chapter eight of this code; and (C) any conser-
- 34 vation officer of the division of natural resources; and
- 35 (2) "Head of a law-enforcement agency" means the chief of
- 36 police of an incorporated municipality; a county sheriff, or the
- 37 chief conservation officer of the division of natural resources.

#### §15-10A-3. Examination requirements.

- 1 A retired law-enforcement officer applying for re-employ-
- 2 ment under this article is required to pass mental and physical
- 3 examinations as required, and meet such other requirements, as
- 4 may be provided in rules promulgated by the head of the
- 5 applicable law-enforcement agency.

#### §15-10A-4. Coverage for illness or injury.

- 1 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of this code to the
- contrary, the head of the law-enforcement agency shall make
   provisions for coverage of personnel employed pursuant to this
- 4 article by the workers' compensation division and bureau of
- 5 employment programs. In the event an individual re-employed
- 6 pursuant to this article sustains an illness or injury which is
- 7 work related in origin, any cost associated with the treatment
- 8 must be defrayed in this manner.
- 9 (b) In the event a work-related illness or injury renders an
- 10 individual employed pursuant to the provisions of this article
- 11 permanently physically or mentally disabled, the applicable
- 12 law-enforcement agencies' disability coverage through the 13 workers' compensation division shall apply, and the individ-
- workers' compensation division shall apply, and the individual's existing pension shall be recalculated as though the
- ual's existing pension shall be recalculated as though the disabling event had occurred coincident with the individual's
- 16 original retirement. Any change in benefits resulting from this
- 17 recalculation may not be retroactive in nature.
- 18 (c) The provisions of this section do not apply in the event
- 19 a person employed pursuant to this article is disabled because
- 20 of some cause or event which is determined not to be work
- 21 related.

#### §15-10A-5. Ineligibility for contributions to pensions.

- 1 Any person re-employed pursuant to this article is not
- 2 eligible to contribute to any pension plan administered by the
- 3 consolidated publicp retirement board, nor may he or she
- 4 establish or accrue any new pension eligibility as a result of
- 5 such re-employment.

# §15-10A-6. Employment status; civil service; and retirement benefits.

- 1 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of this code to the
- contrary, any person re-employed pursuant to this article shall
   serve at the will and pleasure of the head of the law-enforce-
- 4 ment agency, and is subject to termination without cause.
- 5 (b) Any person re-employed pursuant to this article may not 6 be included in the classified service of the civil service system.
- 7 (c) Notwithstanding any provision of this code to the
- 8 contrary, compensation paid to any person re-employed
- 9 pursuant to this article shall be in addition to any public
- 10 employees insurance act retirement benefits, or any other
- 11 retirement payments or pension benefits which he or she is
- 12 already entitled to receive or is receiving.

That Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.
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Chairman' Sehaté Committee Ares Bulles Chairman House Committee
Originating in the House.
In effect ninety days from passage.
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Speaker of the House of Delegates
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