

April 12, 2001

H 1159. PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYER-EMPLOYEE COOPERATION. TO ESTABLISH A PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYER-EMPLOYEE COOPERATION ACT. Adds new GS 17F as title indicates. Provides that public safety officers, defined to include law enforcement officers, firefighters, and emergency medical services personnel, have the right to form or join labor organizations. Sets out rights of associations representing more than one-half of the public safety officers in an agency or department to include the right to (1) advocate on behalf of members concerning terms and conditions of employment, (2) to be present when employee members are being questioned by management in a matter that could result in a disciplinary proceeding, (3) to meet with employer concerning terms and conditions of employment, (4) to enter into written agreements with employer, and (5) to enforce agreements by court action. Provides for civil actions in superior court by officers or associations who believe rights under act have been violated and sets out the relief that may be ordered by the court, including both compensatory damages and injunctive relief. Provides for treble damages for willful violations.

Intro. by Alexander.

Ref. to Rules	GS 17F
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