May 25, 2006

S 1985. DEPUTY SHERIFFS' EMPLOYMENT PROTECTION/FUNDS. Filed 5/25/06. *RELATING TO THE "JUST CAUSE" TERMINATION OF DEPUTY SHERIFFS, AFFORDING ADMINISTRATIVE AND JUDICIAL REVIEW OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS*. Amends GS 153A-103 to provide that policy-making and executive managerial deputies and non-sworn employees serve at the pleasure of the sheriff, but rank and file deputies may be terminated only for just cause (now, all employees serve at sheriff's pleasure). Grants rank and file deputies right to a contested case hearing and appeal under the Administrative Procedure Act. Amends GS 126-5 to provide that State Personnel Act applies to rank and file deputy sheriffs. Appropriates $100,000 from the General Fund to the Department of Administration, Office of Administrative Hearings to implement the administrative review requirements. Effective July 1, 2006, for disciplinary actions commenced on or after that date.

Intro. by East. GS 126, 153A, APPROP