

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2021**

**S**

**1**

**SENATE BILL 802**

Short Title: Fund Our Police Act. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Batch, Garrett, and Fitch (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to: Appropriations/Base Budget

May 26, 2022

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY FOR  
3 LOCAL EMPLOYING AUTHORITIES TO PROVIDE LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT  
4 OFFICERS WITH A ONE-TIME APPRECIATION AND RETENTION BONUS FOR  
5 SERVICE DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.** Definitions. – The following definitions apply in this act:

8 (1) Department. – The Department of Public Safety.

9 (2) Local employing authority. – A city, county, or other local political  
10 subdivision of this State. The term also includes the sheriff of a county.

11 (3) Local law enforcement officer. – A full-time employee hired by the local  
12 employing authority and serving as a sheriffs' deputy, police officer, detention  
13 officer, or telecommunicator.

14 **SECTION 2.** One-Time Bonus. – There is appropriated from the General Fund to  
15 the Department of Public Safety the sum of fifty million seven hundred forty-five thousand  
16 dollars (\$50,745,000) in nonrecurring funds for the 2022-2023 fiscal year to fund one-time  
17 bonuses in the amount of one thousand five hundred dollars (\$1,500), payable to local law  
18 enforcement officers who are employed on July 1, 2022, in recognition of their service during  
19 the coronavirus pandemic. The Department shall administer the appreciation and retention bonus  
20 program with technical assistance from the Office of State Budget and Management.

21 **SECTION 3.** Procedure to Participate. – By August 1, 2022, each local employing  
22 authority shall submit to the Department documentation identifying the number of local law  
23 enforcement officers eligible for the one-time appreciation and retention bonus and any  
24 supporting information required by the Department. Prior to receiving any funds, the local  
25 employing authority shall submit an attestation acknowledging that program funds shall be  
26 provided directly to designated eligible local law enforcement officers in accordance with this  
27 act. Each local employing authority shall pay the one-time appreciation and retention bonus to  
28 each eligible local law enforcement officer by September 1, 2022.

29 **SECTION 4.** Effective Date. – This act becomes effective July 1, 2022.

