

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2023

H.B. 363  
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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH40182-ND-35A

Short Title: The Gabe Torres Act. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Crawford.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO BE ENTITLED THE GABE TORRES ACT, TO EXPAND THOSE ELIGIBLE  
3 UNDER THE PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYEES' DEATH BENEFITS ACT, AND TO  
4 HONOR THE LIFE OF GABE TORRES, A RALEIGH POLICE OFFICER WHOSE LIFE  
5 CAME TO AN END AFTER A TRAGIC ACT OF VIOLENCE ON OCTOBER 13, 2022,  
6 WHILE HE WAS ON HIS WAY TO WORK.

7 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

8 SECTION 1. G.S. 143-166.2 reads as rewritten:

9 "§ 143-166.2. Definitions.

10 The following definitions apply in this Article:

11 ...

12 (9) Official duties. – All duties to which an individual is assigned as part of the  
13 individual's job function. This term shall also include those duties performed  
14 by an individual while (i) en route to, engaged in, or returning from duty or  
15 training; (ii) in the course of responding to, engaged in, or returning from a  
16 call by the department of which the individual is a member; or (iii) in the  
17 course of responding to, engaged in, or returning from a call for assistance  
18 from any department or organization within the State of North Carolina or  
19 within a service area contiguous to the borders of the State of North Carolina  
20 when served or aided by a department from within the State of North Carolina.  
21 While within the State of North Carolina, any covered person who renders  
22 service or assistance, of his or her own volition, at the scene of an emergency,  
23 is performing his or her official duties when both of the following apply:

24 ...."

25 SECTION 2. This act is effective retroactively as of January 1, 2022, and applies to  
26 applicable deaths of covered persons occurring on or after that date when the covered person was  
27 en route to, engaged in, or returning from duty at the time of the covered person's death.

