

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2025

H.B. 137  
Feb 17, 2025  
HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH40077-MRap-39

Short Title: Gabe Torres Act. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Crawford.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO HONOR THE LIFE OF GABE TORRES, A RALEIGH POLICE OFFICER  
3 WHOSE LIFE CAME TO AN END WHILE HE WAS ON HIS WAY TO WORK AFTER  
4 A TRAGIC ACT OF VIOLENCE ON OCTOBER 13, 2022, BY EXPANDING  
5 ELIGIBILITY UNDER THE PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYEES' DEATH BENEFITS ACT  
6 TO INCLUDE INDIVIDUALS KILLED ON THE WAY TO OR FROM 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. Effective July 1, 2025, there is appropriated from the General Fund to  
26 the Department of State Treasurer the sum of three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) in  
27 recurring funds for both years of the 2025-2027 fiscal biennium to be used for benefits under the  
28 Public Safety Employees' Death Benefits Act.

29 SECTION 3. Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes law  
30 and applies to applicable deaths of covered persons occurring on or after that date.



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