



1 institution or agency concerned, but in no event shall the amount of damages awarded  
2 exceed the sum of ~~one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000)~~ three hundred thousand  
3 dollars (\$300,000) cumulatively to all claimants on account of injury and damage to any  
4 one person. Community colleges and technical colleges shall be deemed State agencies  
5 for purposes of this Article. The fact that a claim may be brought under more than one  
6 Article under this Chapter shall not increase the foregoing maximum liability of the  
7 State."

8 Section 2. G.S. 143-291.3 reads as rewritten:

9 "**§ 143-291.3. Counterclaims by State.**

10 The filing of a claim under this Article shall constitute consent by the plaintiff(s)  
11 to the jurisdiction of the Industrial Commission to hear and determine any  
12 counterclaim of ~~one hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$150,000)~~ three hundred thousand  
13 dollars (\$300,000) or less ~~which~~ that may be filed on behalf of a State department,  
14 institution, or agency or a county or city board of education. A final award of the  
15 Industrial Commission awarding damages on a counterclaim shall be filed with the Clerk  
16 of the Superior Court of the county wherein the case was heard. These awards shall be  
17 docketed and shall be enforceable in the same manner as judgments of the General Court  
18 of Justice. Notwithstanding the provisions of Rule 12 of the Rules of Civil Procedure,  
19 nothing in this section shall require the filing of such a counterclaim."

20 Section 3. G.S. 143-299.2 reads as rewritten:

21 "**§ 143-299.2. Limitation on payments by the State.**

22 The maximum amount which the State may pay cumulatively to all claimants on  
23 account of injury and damage to any one person, whether the claim or claims are brought  
24 under this Article or Article 31A or Article 31B, shall be ~~one hundred fifty thousand dollars~~  
25 ~~(\$150,000)~~, three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000), less any commercial liability  
26 insurance purchased by the State and applicable to the claim or claims under G.S. 143-  
27 291(b), 143-300.6(c), or 143-300.16(c). The fact that a claim or claims may be brought  
28 under more than one Article under this Chapter shall not increase the above maximum  
29 liability of the State."

30 Section 4. This act is effective when it becomes law and applies to all  
31 judgments entered and all settlements finalized on or after that date.