

HB 1630 -- Line of Duty Compensation Act

Sponsor: Bruns

This bill establishes the Line of Duty Compensation Act which authorizes a claim to be filed with the Division of Workers' Compensation within the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations on behalf of a law enforcement officer, emergency medical technician, paramedic, aviation medical crew member, firefighter, juvenile justice employee, or department of corrections employee who was killed in the line of duty. The claim must be filed no later than one year from the date of the death by the spouse, dependent, or other specified person. The amount of compensation for the claim will be \$100,000, subject to appropriations, for deaths occurring on or after January 1, 2010. A burial benefit of up to \$10,000 will also be payable to the surviving spouse or the estate of an employee who is killed in the line of duty.

The Line of Duty Compensation Fund is created with funds appropriated from general revenue and solely for the purpose of the provisions of the bill. The division must annually submit to the Governor and General Assembly by February 1 a report on the fund's expenditures.

The provisions of the bill will expire six years from the effective date.