

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 4635-01  
Bill No.: HB 1527  
Subject: Education, Proprietary; Workers Compensation; Law Enforcement Officers and Agencies  
Type: Original  
Date: December 22, 2015

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Bill Summary: This proposal changes the laws regarding public safety officers who are eligible for a survivor's and disabled employee's educational grant and the disbursement of any unpaid workers compensation into his or her estate.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2017</b>	<b>FY 2018</b>	<b>FY 2019</b>
General Revenue	(\$10,326)	(\$10,636)	(\$10,956)
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue</b>	<b>(\$10,326)</b>	<b>(\$10,636)</b>	<b>(\$10,956)</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2017</b>	<b>FY 2018</b>	<b>FY 2019</b>
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Numbers within parentheses: ( ) indicate costs or losses.  
This fiscal note contains 5 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

☐ Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$100,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## **FISCAL ANALYSIS**

### **ASSUMPTION**

**Oversight** notes this proposal would add family members of uniformed employees of the State Fire Marshall and Emergency Medical Technicians, as defined in statute, to the list of individuals eligible for the Public Safety Officer or Employee's Child Survivor Grant Program. This program provides educational grants to the children or spouses of certain public employees killed or permanently and totally disabled in the line of duty. The current average award is \$4,867. This proposal also allows for the disbursement of any unpaid workers compensation into his or her estate.

Officials at the **Department of Higher Education (DHE)** assume that in FY 2015 the DHE paid 15 individuals under this program. While the DHE was able to locate national data on the number of deaths of Emergency Medical Technicians, we were unable to find state level information or information about the number of deaths that occurred in the line of duty. However, given the data available and the current distribution of recipients, which are primarily peace officers, DHE estimates this change will result in the payment of two additional individuals during the period of the fiscal impact statement. The FY 2015 average award under this program was \$4,867. Inflating that number at three percent per year, the average award for FY 2017 would be \$5,163. The total needed to pay two additional recipients would be \$10,326. Those numbers are inflated by three percent for FY 2018 and FY 2019.

Officials at the **Department of Public Safety's Division of Fire Safety** assume this would not fiscally impact the Division. However, the uniformed staff of the Division would be impacted as they would be eligible for these benefits. There are currently 56 uniformed employees.

Officials at the **Department of Labor and Industrial Relations** assume there is no fiscal impact from this proposal. This language broadens the class of individuals entitled to Line of Duty benefits to include a uniformed employee of the office of the state Fire Marshal. Emergency medical technicians are already included in the Line of Duty Act. It is assumed any increase in the number of Line of Duty claims, due to the inclusion of the state Fire Marshal, could be covered with existing appropriation authority. The remainder of the changes to the Line of Duty payments clarify the individuals who can file claims, but do not appear to add additional classes of individuals to the Line of Duty Act.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2017 (10 Mo.)	FY 2018	FY 2019
<b>GENERAL REVENUE</b>			
<u>Cost - DHE -expanding the Public Safety Officer Grant Program to include Emergency Medical Technicians &amp; State Fire Marshall employees</u>	<u>(\$10,326)</u>	<u>(\$10,636)</u>	<u>(\$10,956)</u>
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE</b>	<b><u>(\$10,326)</u></b>	<b><u>(\$10,636)</u></b>	<b><u>(\$10,956)</u></b>
<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2017 (10 Mo.)	FY 2018	FY 2019
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

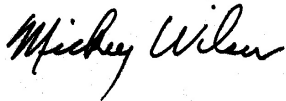
This bill adds a uniformed employee of the Office of the State Fire Marshal and his or her child and spouse, and specified emergency medical technicians and their children and spouses to the list of those eligible to receive a public safety officer or employee survivor grant from the Coordinating Board for Higher Education within the Department of Higher Education.

This bill also adds a uniformed employee of the Office of the State Fire Marshal and his or her child and spouse, and specified emergency medical technicians and their children and spouses to the list of those eligible to receive unpaid workers' compensation claims when the employee is killed in the line of duty.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Higher Education  
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations  
Department of Public Safety  
Division of Fire Safety

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mickey Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mickey Wilson, CPA  
Director  
December 22, 2015

Ross Strobe  
Assistant Director  
December 22, 2015