

HB 466 -- WORKERS COMPENSATION FOR PTSD

SPONSOR: Gregory

This bill recognizes Post traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) as a compensable occupational disease for purposes of the Workers' Compensation Law, if diagnosed in a first responder as specified in the bill. Benefits are payable to a first responder without the need for a physical injury and are not subject to any preexisting PTSD.

Notice of the injury or death in cases of compensable PTSD are measured from exposure to one of the qualifying stressors listed in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Health Disorders, Fifth Edition (DSM-5), or diagnosis of the disorder. Any claim for compensation must be made to the Division of Workers' Compensation within the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations within 52 weeks of the exposure to the stessor or from diagnosis, whichever is later.