

1 AN ACT concerning State government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Line of Duty Compensation Act is amended by  
5 changing Section 2 as follows:

6 (820 ILCS 315/2) (from Ch. 48, par. 282)

7 Sec. 2. As used in this Act, unless the context otherwise  
8 requires:

9 (a) "Law enforcement officer" or "officer" means any  
10 person employed by the State or a local governmental entity as  
11 a policeman, peace officer, auxiliary policeman or in some  
12 like position involving the enforcement of the law and  
13 protection of the public interest at the risk of that person's  
14 life. This includes supervisors, wardens, superintendents and  
15 their assistants, guards and keepers, correctional officers,  
16 youth supervisors, parole agents, aftercare specialists,  
17 school teachers, and correctional counselors in all facilities  
18 of both the Department of Corrections and the Department of  
19 Juvenile Justice, while within the facilities under the  
20 control of the Department of Corrections or the Department of  
21 Juvenile Justice or in the act of transporting inmates or  
22 wards from one location to another or while performing their  
23 official duties, and all other Department of Corrections or

1 Department of Juvenile Justice employees who have daily  
2 contact with inmates. For the purposes of this Act, "law  
3 enforcement officer" or "officer" also means a probation  
4 officer, as defined in Section 9b of the Probation and  
5 Probation Officers Act.

6 The death of the foregoing employees of the Department of  
7 Corrections or the Department of Juvenile Justice in order to  
8 be included herein must be by the direct or indirect willful  
9 act of an inmate, ward, work-releasee, parolee, aftercare  
10 releasee, parole violator, aftercare release violator, person  
11 under conditional release, or any person sentenced or  
12 committed, or otherwise subject to confinement in or to the  
13 Department of Corrections or the Department of Juvenile  
14 Justice.

15 (b) "Fireman" means any person employed by the State or a  
16 local governmental entity as, or otherwise serving as, a  
17 member or officer of a fire department either for the purpose  
18 of the prevention or control of fire or the underwater  
19 recovery of drowning victims, including volunteer firemen.

20 (c) "Local governmental entity" includes counties,  
21 municipalities, and municipal corporations.

22 (d) "State" means the State of Illinois and its  
23 departments, divisions, boards, bureaus, commissions,  
24 authorities, and colleges and universities.

25 (e) "Killed in the line of duty" means losing one's life as  
26 a result of injury received in the active performance of

1 duties as a law enforcement officer, civil defense worker,  
2 civil air patrol member, paramedic, fireman, or chaplain if  
3 the death occurs within one year from the date the injury was  
4 received and if that injury arose from violence or other  
5 accidental cause. In the case of a State employee, "killed in  
6 the line of duty" means losing one's life as a result of injury  
7 received in the active performance of one's duties as a State  
8 employee, if the death occurs within one year from the date the  
9 injury was received and if that injury arose from a willful act  
10 of violence by another State employee committed during such  
11 other employee's course of employment and after January 1,  
12 1988. The term excludes death resulting from the willful  
13 misconduct or intoxication of the officer, civil defense  
14 worker, civil air patrol member, paramedic, fireman, chaplain,  
15 or State employee. However, the burden of proof of such  
16 willful misconduct or intoxication of the officer, civil  
17 defense worker, civil air patrol member, paramedic, fireman,  
18 chaplain, or State employee is on the Attorney General.  
19 Subject to the conditions set forth in subsection (a) with  
20 respect to inclusion under this Act of Department of  
21 Corrections and Department of Juvenile Justice employees  
22 described in that subsection, for the purposes of this Act,  
23 instances in which a law enforcement officer receives an  
24 injury in the active performance of duties as a law  
25 enforcement officer include, but are not limited to, instances  
26 when:

1           (1) the injury is received as a result of a willful act  
2 of violence committed other than by the officer and a  
3 relationship exists between the commission of such act and  
4 the officer's performance of his duties as a law  
5 enforcement officer, whether or not the injury is received  
6 while the officer is on duty as a law enforcement officer;

7           (2) the injury is received by the officer while the  
8 officer is attempting to prevent the commission of a  
9 criminal act by another or attempting to apprehend an  
10 individual the officer suspects has committed a crime,  
11 whether or not the injury is received while the officer is  
12 on duty as a law enforcement officer;

13           (3) the injury is received by the officer while the  
14 officer is traveling to or from his employment as a law  
15 enforcement officer or during any meal break, or other  
16 break, which takes place during the period in which the  
17 officer is on duty as a law enforcement officer.

18           In the case of an Armed Forces member, "killed in the line  
19 of duty" means losing one's life while on active duty in  
20 connection with the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks on  
21 the United States, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation  
22 Freedom's Sentinel, Operation Iraqi Freedom, Operation New  
23 Dawn, or Operation Inherent Resolve.

24           (f) "Volunteer fireman" means a person having principal  
25 employment other than as a fireman, but who is carried on the  
26 rolls of a regularly constituted fire department either for

1 the purpose of the prevention or control of fire or the  
2 underwater recovery of drowning victims, the members of which  
3 are under the jurisdiction of the corporate authorities of a  
4 city, village, incorporated town, or fire protection district,  
5 and includes a volunteer member of a fire department organized  
6 under the General Not for Profit Corporation Act, which is  
7 under contract with any city, village, incorporated town, fire  
8 protection district, or persons residing therein, for fire  
9 fighting services. "Volunteer fireman" does not mean an  
10 individual who volunteers assistance without being regularly  
11 enrolled as a fireman.

12 (g) "Civil defense worker" means any person employed by  
13 the State or a local governmental entity as, or otherwise  
14 serving as, a member of a civil defense work force, including  
15 volunteer civil defense work forces engaged in serving the  
16 public interest during periods of disaster, whether natural or  
17 man-made.

18 (h) "Civil air patrol member" means any person employed by  
19 the State or a local governmental entity as, or otherwise  
20 serving as, a member of the organization commonly known as the  
21 "Civil Air Patrol", including volunteer members of the  
22 organization commonly known as the "Civil Air Patrol".

23 (i) "Paramedic" means an Emergency Medical  
24 Technician-Paramedic certified by the Illinois Department of  
25 Public Health under the Emergency Medical Services (EMS)  
26 Systems Act, and all other emergency medical personnel

1 certified by the Illinois Department of Public Health who are  
2 members of an organized body or not-for-profit corporation  
3 under the jurisdiction of a city, village, incorporated town,  
4 fire protection district, or county, that provides emergency  
5 medical treatment to persons of a defined geographical area.

6 (j) "State employee" means any employee as defined in  
7 Section 14-103.05 of the Illinois Pension Code.

8 (k) "Chaplain" means an individual who:

9 (1) is a chaplain of (i) a fire department or (ii) a  
10 police department or other agency consisting of law  
11 enforcement officers; and

12 (2) has been designated a chaplain by (i) the fire  
13 department, police department, or other agency or an  
14 officer or body having jurisdiction over the department or  
15 agency or (ii) a labor organization representing the  
16 firemen or law enforcement officers.

17 (l) "Armed Forces member" means an Illinois resident who  
18 is: a member of the Armed Forces of the United States; a member  
19 of the Illinois National Guard while on active military  
20 service pursuant to an order of the President of the United  
21 States; or a member of any reserve component of the Armed  
22 Forces of the United States while on active military service  
23 pursuant to an order of the President of the United States.

24 (m) "Descendant" has the meaning given to the term "child"  
25 in Section 7 of the Workers' Compensation Act.

26 (Source: P.A. 102-221, eff. 1-1-22; 103-605, eff. 7-1-24.)

1           Section 10. The Public Safety Employee Benefits Act is  
2 amended by changing Section 3 and by adding Section 16 as  
3 follows:

4           (820 ILCS 320/3)

5           Sec. 3. Definition. For the purposes of this Act, the term  
6 "firefighter" includes, without limitation, a licensed  
7 emergency medical technician (EMT) who is a sworn member of a  
8 public fire department, a paramedic employed by a unit of  
9 local government, or an EMT, emergency medical  
10 technician-intermediate (EMT-I), or advanced emergency medical  
11 technician (A-EMT) employed by a unit of local government.

12           For the purposes of this Act, the term "health insurance  
13 plan" is limited to the insurance plan options that are  
14 codified in the employee's collective bargaining agreement. If  
15 the collective bargaining agreement is silent on plan options,  
16 the available plans for the employee shall be negotiated with  
17 the authorized representative and subject to the grievance  
18 process.

19           For the purposes of this Act, the term "child" has the  
20 meaning set forth in Section 7 of the Workers' Compensation  
21 Act.

22           (Source: P.A. 102-439, eff. 1-1-22.)

23           (820 ILCS 320/16 new)

1       Sec. 16. Non-designated beneficiaries. A child or  
2       posthumous child of a firefighter, law enforcement, or  
3       correctional or correctional probation officer shall not be  
4       denied benefits under this Act on the basis that the child had  
5       not been born or had not been designated as a beneficiary on  
6       the date the firefighter, law enforcement, or correctional or  
7       correctional probation officer was killed. This Section  
8       applies to actions not brought to final and unappealable  
9       judgment on or before the effective date of this amendatory  
10       Act of the 104th General Assembly as well as actions commenced  
11       on or after its effective date.

12       Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
13       becoming law.