

SB1924



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB1924

Introduced 2/6/2025, by Sen. Michael W. Halpin

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the First Responder Medal of Honor Act. Provides that the Governor may award the First Responder Medal of Honor to a first responder who displays conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of the first responder's life above and beyond the call of duty while engaged in an act of public service. Provides that the Illinois Emergency Management Agency and Office of Homeland Security shall determine if a first responder is eligible for the First Responder Medal of Honor. Provides that a first responder's employer may recommend a first responder who has been killed or seriously injured in the line of duty for the First Responder Medal of Honor. Provides that a member of the General Assembly may recommend a first responder who resides, works, or dies in the line of duty in the member's district for the First Responder Medal of Honor.

LRB104 07376 RTM 17416 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning government.

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

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the First
5 Responder Medal of Honor Act.

6 Section 5. Definitions. As used in this Act:

7 "Department" means the Illinois Emergency Management
8 Agency and Office of Homeland Security.

9 "First responder" includes:

10 (1) law enforcement officers as defined in Section 2
11 of the Line of Duty Compensation Act;

12 (2) firemen as defined in Section 2 of the Line of Duty
13 Compensation Act; and

14 (3) emergency medical service personnel as defined in
15 Emergency the Medical Services (EMS) Systems Act.

16 Section 10. The First Responder Medal of Honor.

17 (a) The Governor may award the First Responder Medal of
18 Honor to a first responder who displays conspicuous gallantry
19 and intrepidity at the risk of the first responder's life
20 above and beyond the call of duty while engaged in an act of
21 public service.

22 (b) The Governor may award the First Responder Medal of

1 Honor only to a first responder deemed eligible by the
2 Department under Section 15.

3 (c) The Governor shall determine the time and place of the
4 public ceremony where a first responder or the first
5 responder's next of kin are presented the First Responder
6 Medal of Honor.

7 Section 15. Eligibility.

8 (a) The Department shall determine if a first responder is
9 eligible for the First Responder Medal of Honor. Only first
10 responders deemed eligible by the Department may be awarded
11 the First Responder Medal of Honor.

12 (b) The Department shall consider every recommendation for
13 the First Responder Medal of Honor made under Section 20.

14 Section 20. Recommendations.

15 (a) The first responder's employer may recommend a first
16 responder who has been killed or seriously injured in the line
17 of duty for the First Responder Medal of Honor.

18 (b) A member of the General Assembly may recommend a first
19 responder who resides, works, or dies in the line of duty in
20 the member's district for the First Responder Medal of Honor.

21 Section 25. Rulemaking. The Department shall adopt rules
22 to implement and administer this Act.