SLS 24RS-198

ORIGINAL

2024 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 31

BY SENATOR WHEAT

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES. Increases survivor benefits for dependent children of firemen and law enforcement officers. (8/1/24)

1	AN ACT
2	To amend and reenact R.S. 40:1665(C)(1) and 1665.2(C)(1), relative to survivor benefits;
3	to provide for survivor benefits for dependent children of firemen and law
4	enforcement officers; to provide for terms and conditions; and to provide for related
5	matters.
6	Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:
7	Section 1. R.S. 40:1665(C)(1) and 1665.2(C)(1) are hereby amended and reenacted
8	to read as follows:
9	§1665. Financial security for surviving spouses and children of firemen in certain
10	cases
11	* * *
12	C.(1) In any case in which a fireman suffers death as a result of an injury
13	arising out of and in the course of the performance of his official duties as a fireman,
14	or arising out of any activity while on or off duty, in his capacity as a fireman, in the
15	protection of life and property, the sum of two hundred fifty thousand dollars shall
16	be paid to the surviving spouse of the fireman or, if not survived by a spouse, the
17	sum of two hundred fifty thousand dollars shall be paid to the surviving child or

Page 1 of 3 Coding: Words which are struck through are deletions from existing law; words in **boldface type and underscored** are additions.

ORIGINAL SB NO. 31

1	children or, if not survived by a spouse nor a child or children, then the sum of two
2	hundred fifty thousand dollars shall be paid to the named beneficiary listed on the
3	fireman's designation form or, if there is no beneficiary designation form at the time
4	of the fireman's death, and no surviving spouse nor a child or children, then the sum
5	of two hundred fifty thousand dollars shall be paid to the fireman's estate. Each
6	fireman shall complete a beneficiary designation form. In addition, if the fireman is
7	survived by a dependent child or children, the sum of twenty-five fifty thousand
8	dollars shall be paid for each of the dependent children, such sums to be paid to the
9	duly appointed and qualified tutor or the legal representative of the child or children.
10	Payment shall be made by the state risk manager out of the Self-Insurance Fund
11	created in R.S. 39:1533(A).
12	* * *
13	§1665.2. Financial security for surviving spouses and children of law enforcement
14	officers in certain cases
15	* * *
16	C.(1) In any case in which a law enforcement officer suffers death as a result
17	of any injury arising out of and in the course of the performance of his official duties
18	as such officer, or arising out of any activity, while on or off duty, in his capacity as
19	a law enforcement officer, in the protection of life or property, the sum of two
20	hundred fifty thousand dollars shall be paid to the surviving spouse of each officer
21	or, if not survived by a spouse, the sum of two hundred fifty thousand dollars shall
22	be paid to the surviving child or children or, if not survived by a spouse nor a child
23	or children, then the sum of two hundred fifty thousand dollars shall be paid to the
24	named beneficiary listed on the officer's beneficiary designation form or, if there is
25	no designation form at the time of the officer's death, and no surviving spouse nor
26	a child or children, then the sum of two hundred fifty thousand dollars shall be paid
27	to the officer's estate. Each officer shall complete a beneficiary designation form. In
28	addition, if the officer is survived by a dependent child or children, the sum of
29	twenty-five fifty thousand dollars shall be paid for each of the dependent children,

Page 2 of 3 Coding: Words which are struck through are deletions from existing law; words in **boldface type and underscored** are additions.

SB 31 Original

1	such sums to be paid to the duly appointed and qualified tutor or the legal
2	representative of the child or children. Payment shall be made by the state risk
3	manager out of the Self-Insurance Fund created in R.S. 39:1533(A).
4	* * *

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Michelle Ridge.

DIGEST 2024 Regular Session

Wheat

<u>Present law</u> provides for \$250,000 in survivor benefits to the spouse or other legal survivor of a fireman or law enforcement officer in certain circumstances.

Proposed law retains present law.

<u>Present law</u> provides that if a fireman or law enforcement officer has a dependent child or children, the sum of \$25,000 will be paid for each dependent child to the duly appointed and qualified tutor or legal representative of each child.

<u>Proposed law</u> increases the amount to be paid for each dependent child <u>from</u> \$25,000 to \$50,000.

Effective August 1, 2024.

(Amends R.S. 40:1665(C)(1) and 1665.2(C)(1))