

SENATE BILL 2061

By Bowling

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 7, Chapter 51, Part 2; Title 9 and Title 68, Chapter 140, relative to compensation for certain persons killed in the line of duty.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 7, Chapter 51, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new section thereto:

7-51-210.

(a) For the purposes of this section, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Emergency medical services personnel" means individuals certified or licensed by the emergency medical services board in accordance with various categories and classifications of licenses or certificates that the board establishes; and

(2) "In the line of duty" means in the course of employment and in the actual discharge of the duties of the position.

(b) The estate of any emergency medical services personnel or 911 operator who is killed in the line of duty shall be entitled to receive the sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000). The emergency medical services personnel or 911 operator must also have been current in any required training and physical exams at the time the incident occurred for their estate to receive such payment. Payment shall be made from the general fund after receipt by the department of finance and administration of a certified death certificate and an affidavit from the decedent's employer that the decedent was killed in the line of duty.

(c) If a person meets the definition of “emergency medical services personnel” for purposes of this section and also meets the definition of a firefighter, volunteer rescue squad worker or law enforcement officer under § 7-51-206, § 7-51-207 or § 7-51-208, the person’s estate is only entitled to receive one (1) payment of one million dollars (\$1,000,000).

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 7-51-206(b), is amended by deleting the first sentence of the subsection and by substituting instead the following language:

The estate of any firefighter who is killed in the line of duty shall be entitled to receive the sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000). The firefighter must also have been current in the firefighter’s required training and physical exam at the time the incident occurred for the firefighter’s estate to receive such payment.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 7-51-207(b), is amended by deleting the first sentence of the subsection and by substituting instead the following language:

The estate of any volunteer rescue squad worker who is killed in the line of duty shall be entitled to receive the sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000). The volunteer rescue squad worker must also have been current in the worker’s required training and physical exam at the time the incident occurred for the worker’s estate to receive such payment.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 7-51-208(b), is amended by deleting the first sentence of the subsection and by substituting instead the following language:

The estate of any law enforcement officer who is killed in the line of duty shall be entitled to receive the sum of one million dollars (\$1,000,000). The law enforcement officer must also have been current in the officer’s required training and physical exam at the time the incident occurred for the officer’s estate to receive such payment.

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 7, Chapter 51, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new section thereto:

7-51-211.

The department of finance and administration shall create a fund for the purpose of making any payments pursuant to § 7-51-206, § 7-51-207, § 7-51-208 or § 7-51-210. Any balance remaining unexpended at the end of a fiscal year in the fund shall not revert to the general fund but shall be carried forward into the subsequent fiscal year.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014, the public welfare requiring it.