

By the Committees on General Government Appropriations; and Governmental Oversight and Accountability; and Senators Baker, Storms, Ring, Altman, Hill, Dean, and Siplin

601-04199-10

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to firefighter death benefits;
3 amending s. 112.191, F.S.; revising provisions
4 providing death benefits for firefighters; expanding
5 activities entitling firefighters to death benefits to
6 include participation in training exercises and injury
7 by an unlawful and intentional act which results in
8 death; providing legislative findings that the act
9 fulfills an important state interest; providing for
10 application; providing an effective date.

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12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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14 Section 1. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (2) of
15 section 112.191, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

16 112.191 Firefighters; death benefits.—

17 (2)

18 (b) The sum of \$50,000, as adjusted pursuant to paragraph
19 (i), shall be paid as provided in this section if a firefighter
20 is accidentally killed as specified in paragraph (a) and the
21 accidental death occurs as a result of the firefighter's
22 response to what is reasonably believed to be an emergency
23 involving the protection of life or property or the
24 firefighter's participation in a training exercise. This sum
25 shall be in addition to any sum provided for in paragraph (a).
26 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in no case shall the
27 amount payable under this subsection be less than the actual
28 amount stated therein.

29 (c) If a firefighter, while engaged in the performance of

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30 his or her firefighter duties, is unlawfully and intentionally
31 killed, is injured by an unlawful and intentional act of another
32 person and dies as a result of such injury, dies as a result of
33 a fire which has been determined to have been caused by an act
34 of arson, or subsequently dies as a result of injuries sustained
35 therefrom, the sum of \$150,000, as adjusted pursuant to
36 paragraph (i), shall be paid as provided in this section.
37 Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in no case shall the
38 amount payable under this subsection be less than the actual
39 amount stated therein.

40 Section 2. The Legislature finds that this act fulfills an
41 important state interest.

42 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law,
43 and applies to firefighter deaths occurring on or after November
44 1, 2003.