

By Senator Avila

39-00570-23

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to bereavement benefits for law  
3       enforcement officers; providing a short title;  
4       creating s. 110.1205, F.S.; authorizing the head of a  
5       law enforcement agency to grant administrative leave  
6       to law enforcement officers under certain  
7       circumstances; creating s. 112.0615, F.S.; authorizing  
8       the head of a law enforcement agency to designate  
9       specified travel as official state business; providing  
10       for the reimbursement of such travel; amending s.  
11       112.19, F.S.; revising the sum paid on the behalf of  
12       specified law enforcement officers killed in the line  
13       of duty for funeral and burial expenses; amending s.  
14       287.17, F.S.; authorizing the use of a state vehicle  
15       by specified law enforcement officers if certain  
16       conditions exist; declaring that the act fulfills an  
17       important state interest; providing an effective date.

18  
19 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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21       Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Respecting the  
22 Sacrifice of Law Enforcement Officers Act."

23       Section 2. Section 110.1205, Florida Statutes, is created  
24 to read:

25       110.1205 Bereavement leave for law enforcement officers.—  
26 The head of a law enforcement agency may grant administrative  
27 leave not to exceed 8 hours to a law enforcement officer from  
28 the agency to attend the funeral service of a law enforcement  
29 officer from the agency who was killed in the line of duty. Law

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30 enforcement agency heads may deny such use of administrative  
31 leave to maintain adequate staffing levels.

32 Section 3. Section 112.0615, Florida Statutes, is created  
33 to read:

34 112.0615 Bereavement travel.—The head of a law enforcement  
35 agency may designate as official state business the travel of a  
36 law enforcement officer from the agency to attend the funeral  
37 services of a law enforcement officer from the agency who was  
38 killed in the line of duty. The law enforcement officer must be  
39 reimbursed by the agency as provided in s. 112.061 for the  
40 expenses incurred traveling to and returning from the funeral  
41 service.

42 Section 4. Paragraph (f) of subsection (2) of section  
43 112.19, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

44 112.19 Law enforcement, correctional, and correctional  
45 probation officers; death benefits.—

46 (2)

47 (f) If a full-time law enforcement, correctional, or  
48 correctional probation officer who is certified pursuant to  
49 chapter 943 and employed by a state agency is killed in the line  
50 of duty while the officer is engaged in the performance of law  
51 enforcement duties or as a result of an assault against the  
52 officer under riot conditions:

53 1. The sum of \$10,000 ~~\$1,000~~ must be paid, as provided for  
54 in paragraph (d), toward the funeral and burial expenses of such  
55 officer. Such benefits are in addition to any other benefits to  
56 which employee beneficiaries and dependents are entitled under  
57 the Workers' Compensation Law or any other state or federal  
58 statutes; and

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59           2. The officer's employing agency may pay up to \$5,000  
60 directly toward the venue expenses associated with the funeral  
61 and burial services of such officer.

62           Section 5. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (3) of  
63 section 287.17, Florida Statutes, to read:

64           287.17 Limitation on use of motor vehicles and aircraft.—  
65           (3)

66           (c) For motor vehicles used by a state employee whose  
67 duties are those of a law enforcement officer, as defined in s.  
68 943.10, the employee may use a state vehicle to attend the  
69 funeral of a law enforcement officer from his or her agency who  
70 was killed in the line of duty.

71           Section 6. The Legislature determines and declares that  
72 this act fulfills an important state interest.

73           Section 7. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.