

FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES BILL ANALYSIS

This bill analysis was prepared by nonpartisan committee staff and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.

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| BILL #: CS/HB 813 | COMPANION BILL: CS/CS/SB 984 (DiCeglie) |
| TITLE: Firefighter Cancer Benefits and Prevention | LINKED BILLS: None |
| SPONSOR(S): Busatta | RELATED BILLS: None |

Committee References



SUMMARY

Effect of the Bill:

The bill provides that the \$75,000 death benefit for firefighters who die as a result of cancer is available for one year after the firefighter terminates employment.

Fiscal or Economic Impact:

The bill will likely have an indeterminate, negative fiscal impact on the state and local governments.

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| JUMP TO | SUMMARY | ANALYSIS | RELEVANT INFORMATION | BILL HISTORY |
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ANALYSIS

EFFECT OF THE BILL:

The bill provides that the \$75,000 [death benefit](#) for firefighters who die as a result of cancer or circumstances arising out of the treatment of cancer must be made available by the former employer for one year after the firefighter terminates employment, provided the firefighter was not subsequently employed as a firefighter. (Section [1](#))

The effective date of the bill is July 1, 2026. (Section [2](#))

FISCAL OR ECONOMIC IMPACT:

STATE GOVERNMENT:

The extension of the \$75,000 death benefit availability to one year following termination of employment will have a minimal negative fiscal impact to the Florida Retirement System. To date, there has not been a payout for this benefit.²

LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

The bill will likely have an indeterminate, negative fiscal impact on local governments.

¹ See s. [633.520, F.S.](#)

² Email from Chad Corcoran, Director of Legislative Affairs, Department of Management Services, House Request: HB 813 - Firefighter Cancer Benefits and Prevention (Jan. 27, 2026).

STORAGE NAME: h0813c.BUC

DATE: 2/24/2026

RELEVANT INFORMATION

SUBJECT OVERVIEW:

Death Benefits

Current law provides death benefits to firefighters who die as a result of cancer or circumstances arising out of the treatment of cancer. If the firefighter participated in an employer-sponsored retirement plan, the plan must consider the firefighter to have died in the line of duty.³ If the firefighter did not participate in an employer-sponsored retirement plan, the employer must provide a death benefit to the firefighter’s beneficiary equal to at least 42 percent of the firefighter’s annual salary for at least 10 years.⁴ In addition, the beneficiary is entitled to a one-time payment of \$75,000.⁵

BILL HISTORY

| COMMITTEE REFERENCE | ACTION | DATE | STAFF DIRECTOR/ POLICY CHIEF | ANALYSIS PREPARED BY |
|--|------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| Government Operations Subcommittee | 18 Y, 0 N | 1/21/2026 | Toliver | Villa |
| Budget Committee | 28 Y, 0 N, As CS | | Pridgeon | Helping |

THE CHANGES ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE:

- Removed language that would authorize a \$25,000 cancer benefit to be available for each firefighter’s cancer diagnoses.
- Removed language that eliminated the requirement that, in order to receive the \$25,000 cancer benefit for up to 10 years after terminating employment, a former firefighter must have elected to continue in an employer-sponsored health plan.
- Removed language that eliminated duplicative grant of rulemaking authority.

[State Affairs Committee](#)

THIS BILL ANALYSIS HAS BEEN UPDATED TO INCORPORATE ALL OF THE CHANGES DESCRIBED ABOVE.

³ [S. 112.1816\(4\)\(a\), F.S.](#)

⁴ [S. 112.1816\(4\)\(b\), F.S.](#)

⁵ [S. 112.1816\(4\)\(c\), F.S.](#)