

FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FINAL BILL ANALYSIS

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BILL #: [CS/CS/HB 813](#)

TITLE: Firefighter Cancer Benefits

SPONSOR(S): Busatta

COMPANION BILL: [CS/CS/SB 984](#) (DiCeglie)

LINKED BILLS: None

RELATED BILLS: None

FINAL HOUSE FLOOR ACTION: 109 Y's 0 N's **GOVERNOR'S ACTION:** Pending

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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ANALYSIS

EFFECT OF THE BILL:

CS/CS/HB 813 passed as [CS/CS/SB 984](#).

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 bill includes a legislative determination that the act fulfills an important state interest. (Section 2)

Subject to the Governor's veto powers, the effective date of this bill is July 1, 2026. (Section 3)

FISCAL OR ECONOMIC IMPACT:

STATE GOVERNMENT:

The extension of eligibility for the \$75,000 death benefit to one year following termination of employment will have a minimal negative fiscal impact to the Florida Retirement System. To date, no payouts have been made under this benefit.¹

LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

The extension of eligibility for the \$75,000 death benefit to one year following termination of employment will likely have an indeterminate, negative fiscal impact on local governments.

¹ Email from Chad Corcoran, Director of Legislative Affairs, Department of Management Services, House Request: HB 813 - Firefighter Cancer Benefits and Prevention (Jan. 27, 2026) (on file with the Budget Committee).

STORAGE NAME: h0813z.GOS

DATE: 3/26/2026

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.² 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.³ In addition, the beneficiary is entitled to a one-time payment of \$75,000.⁴

² [S. 112.1816\(4\)\(a\), F.S.](#)

³ [S. 112.1816\(4\)\(b\), F.S.](#)

⁴ [S. 112.1816\(4\)\(c\), F.S.](#)