

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 413

BY REPRESENTATIVES STAGNI, BILLINGS, BRYANT, BUTLER, WILFORD
CARTER, CARVER, CHASSION, COX, DEWITT, DOMANGUE, FARNUM,
GADBERRY, GLORIOSO, GREEN, JACKSON, MIKE JOHNSON, KNOX,
LAFLEUR, LARVADAIN, LYONS, MACK, MOORE, NEWELL, OWEN,
SCHLEGEL, SELDERS, TAYLOR, THOMPSON, WILDER, WYBLE, AND
YOUNG

FIRE PROTECT/FIREMEN: Provides for the financial security of surviving spouses and
dependent children of deceased firemen in certain circumstances

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 40:1665(B), relative to firefighters; to provide for financial
3 security of certain surviving spouses and children; to provide for applicability to
4 certain firefighters employed by federal agencies; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Fire Chief T.J. Maury
7 Act".

8 Section 2. R.S. 40:1665(B) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

9 §1665. Financial security for surviving spouses and children of firemen in certain
10 cases

11 * * *

12 B. Firemen, within the meaning of this Section, shall include all paid,
13 regularly employed firemen and all volunteer firemen of any municipality, parish,
14 federally or state- recognized Indian tribe or tribal unit, or fire protection district
15 maintaining a fire department, or of any volunteer fire department. Firemen shall
16 also include any firefighter employed by or under the control of one of the following
17 federal agencies if the injury resulting in death occurred in Louisiana: the
18 Department of Defense, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of

1 Agriculture, the Department of the Interior, or the Federal Emergency Management

2 Administration.

3 * * *

4 Section 3. The provisions of R.S. 40:1665(B) as amended by this Bill shall be

5 applied retroactively to August 1, 2023.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 413 Reengrossed

2024 Regular Session

Stagni

Abstract: Provides for the financial security of surviving spouses and dependent children of a firefighter employed by certain federal agencies and killed in the line of duty.

Present law provides for payment of \$250,000 to the surviving spouse, child, or other beneficiary of a fireman who suffers death as a result of an injury arising out of and in the course of the performance of his official duties or arising out of any activity in his capacity as a fireman in the protection of life and property. Specifies the paid and volunteer firemen to whom present law is applicable.

Proposed law expands the applicability of present law to include any firefighter employed or under the control of one of the following federal agencies if the injury that resulted in the death occurred in La.:

- (1) Dept. of Defense.
- (2) Dept. of Veterans Affairs.
- (3) Dept. of Agriculture.
- (4) Dept. of the Interior.
- (5) Federal Emergency Management Administration.

Proposed law applies retroactively to Aug. 1, 2023.

(Amends R.S. 40:1665(B))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Municipal, Parochial and Cultural Affairs to the original bill:

1. Name the bill the "Fire Chief T.J. Maury Act".
2. Add provision for retroactive application.

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Make proposed law applicable to firefighters employed by or under the control of the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs.