

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS**HB 157****2021 Regular Session****Green**

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES: Provides for the financial security of surviving spouses and children of certain firemen and law enforcement officers who suffer death by heart attack or stroke

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Adds foot pursuits, use of force encounters, hostage and victim rescues, and tactical missions to the list of stressful or physical activities engaged in by a fireman or law enforcement officer prior to his death that create an irrebuttable presumption under certain circumstances that his death is the direct and proximate result of an injury sustained in the performance of his official duties.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Present law provides an irrebuttable presumption that a fireman whose death is the direct and proximate result of a heart attack or a stroke died as the direct and proximate result of an injury sustained in the performance of his official duties, thereby making his survivors eligible for payment pursuant to present law.

Present law provides that the irrebuttable presumption exists if, while on duty, the fireman engages in a stressful or physical activity or participates in a stressful or strenuous physical training exercise and the heart attack or stroke occurs while he is engaged in the activity, while he is on duty after engaging in the activity, or no later than 24 hours after the activity. Present law further provides that the list of stressful or physical activities include fire suppression, rescue, hazardous material response, emergency medical services, disaster relief, or other emergency response activity.

Proposed law retains present law and makes present law applicable to law enforcement officers. Proposed law also adds foot pursuits, use of force encounters, hostage and victim rescues, and tactical missions to the list of stressful or physical activities and makes the list applicable to firemen and law enforcement officers.

(Amends R.S. 40:1665.1(A), (C), and (D))