

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.

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

Committee References

[Government Operations](#)

18 Y, 0 N



[Budget](#)

28 Y, 0 N, As CS



[State Affairs](#)

24 Y, 0 N, As CS

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:

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](#))

The effective date of the 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.²

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.

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) (on file with the Budget Committee).

STORAGE NAME: h0813d.SAC

DATE: 2/27/2026

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	2/24/2026	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	24 Y, 0 N, As CS	2/26/2026	Williamson	Villa
THE CHANGES ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE:	Revised the relating-to clause and included a finding that the bill fulfills an important state interest.			

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.](#)