

SB2919



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

SB2919

Introduced 1/27/2026, by Sen. Willie Preston

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

820 ILCS 320/10

Amends the Public Safety Employee Benefits Act. Provides that, if the injured employee subsequently dies, the employer shall continue to pay the entire health insurance premium for the surviving spouse (rather than the surviving spouse until remarried) and for the dependent children under specified conditions.

LRB104 19251 SPS 32697 b

A BILL FOR

1 AN ACT concerning employment.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Public Safety Employee Benefits Act is
5 amended by changing Section 10 as follows:

6 (820 ILCS 320/10)

7 Sec. 10. Required health coverage benefits.

8 (a) An employer who employs a full-time law enforcement,
9 correctional or correctional probation officer, or
10 firefighter, who, on or after the effective date of this Act
11 suffers a catastrophic injury or is killed in the line of duty
12 shall pay the entire premium of the employer's health
13 insurance plan for the injured employee, the injured
14 employee's spouse, and for each dependent child of the injured
15 employee until the child reaches the age of majority or until
16 the end of the calendar year in which the child reaches the age
17 of 25 if the child continues to be dependent for support or the
18 child is a full-time or part-time student and is dependent for
19 support. An individual whose entire premium is paid in
20 accordance with this Section shall be offered by the employer
21 the choice of any health insurance plan available to currently
22 employed full-time law enforcement, correctional or
23 correctional probation officers, or firefighters. For purposes

1 of plans administered under the State Employee Group Insurance
2 Act of 1971, changes in coverage may only be elected during
3 open enrollment or following a qualifying event. The term
4 "health insurance plan" does not include supplemental benefits
5 that are not part of the basic group health insurance plan. If
6 the injured employee subsequently dies, the employer shall
7 continue to pay the entire health insurance premium for the
8 surviving spouse ~~until remarried~~ and for the dependent
9 children under the conditions established in this Section.

10 However:

11 (1) Health insurance benefits payable from any other
12 source shall reduce benefits payable under this Section.

13 (2) It is unlawful for a person to willfully and
14 knowingly make, or cause to be made, or to assist,
15 conspire with, or urge another to make, or cause to be
16 made, any false, fraudulent, or misleading oral or written
17 statement to obtain health insurance coverage as provided
18 under this Section. A violation of this item is a Class A
19 misdemeanor.

20 (3) Upon conviction for a violation described in item
21 (2), a law enforcement, correctional or correctional
22 probation officer, or other beneficiary who receives or
23 seeks to receive health insurance benefits under this
24 Section shall forfeit the right to receive health
25 insurance benefits and shall reimburse the employer for
26 all benefits paid due to the fraud or other prohibited

1 activity. For purposes of this item, "conviction" means a
2 determination of guilt that is the result of a plea or
3 trial, regardless of whether adjudication is withheld.

4 (b) In order for the law enforcement, correctional or
5 correctional probation officer, firefighter, spouse, or
6 dependent children to be eligible for insurance coverage under
7 this Act, the injury or death must have occurred as the result
8 of the officer's response to fresh pursuit, the officer or
9 firefighter's response to what is reasonably believed to be an
10 emergency, an unlawful act perpetrated by another, or during
11 the investigation of a criminal act. Nothing in this Section
12 shall be construed to limit health insurance coverage or
13 pension benefits for which the officer, firefighter, spouse,
14 or dependent children may otherwise be eligible.

15 (Source: P.A. 103-340, eff. 1-1-24.)