99TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2015 and 2016

HB4006

by Rep. Jay Hoffman

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act 30 ILCS 105/5.866 new

Creates the Burn Victims Relief Act, which may be referred to as the George Bailey Memorial Law. Creates the George Bailey Memorial Program, under which a burn victim who, through no fault of his or her own, has become disabled and has been told by 2 independent physicians that his or her prognosis is that he or she has less than 18 months left to live shall immediately receive the 5 months' pay that he or she would have received for Social Security had there not been a mandatory 5-month waiting period. Provides for penalties for fraud. Creates the George Bailey Memorial Board to carry out the Program. Creates the George Bailey Memorial Fund as a special fund in the State treasury and amends the State Finance Act to list the Fund as a special fund. Provides for repayments to the Fund under specified conditions. Provides that fire insurance companies shall pay amounts assessed by the Department of Insurance and that the Department shall pay the money so received into the George Bailey Memorial Fund.

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FISCAL NOTE ACT MAY APPLY

CORRECTIONAL BUDGET AND IMPACT NOTE ACT MAY APPLY

A BILL FOR

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1

AN ACT concerning burn victims.

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

Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the Burn
Victims Relief Act, which may be referred to as the George
Bailey Memorial Law.

7 Section 5. The George Bailey Memorial Program.

8 (a) The George Bailey Memorial Program is created, under 9 which any burn victim who, through no fault of his or her own, has become disabled and has been told by 2 independent 10 physicians that his or her prognosis is that he or she has less 11 than 18 months left to live shall immediately receive the 5 12 months' pay that he or she would have received for Social 13 14 Security had there not been a mandatory 5-month waiting period. The person shall receive the same amount that he or she would 15 16 receive under the federal Supplemental Security income 17 program, minus \$25. This amount shall be paid in equal payments for 5 months, ending after the end of the 5-month period or 18 19 upon the applicant's death.

As used in this Section, "through no fault of his or her own" means that the individual is not the proximate cause of his or her injury, through either gross negligence or by use of a substance that is well known to possibly cause grave bodily - 2 - LRB099 11163 MGM 31653 b

1 injury by a short amount of use or exposure.

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(b) Any moneys that a person or his or her estate, trust, or heirs receive from a settlement for the injury that is the proximate cause of person's disability under this Act shall be used to repay the George Bailey Memorial Fund, except as provided under subsection (k) of this Section. The moneys shall be paid directly to the office of the Treasurer and shall be forwarded to the fund minus a 20% administrative fee.

9 (c) Any person meeting the requirements of subsection (a) 10 and whose application to the Board is approved unanimously 11 shall be eligible to participate in the Program.

12 (d) Any active member of the United States armed forces 13 shall be eligible if he or she was a resident of Illinois for 14 at least 12 months before enlisting and he or she planned to 15 return to Illinois.

(e) Any legal resident of Illinois who, at the time of the injury, was a resident of Illinois who would qualify under subsection (a) shall not be disqualified for residency requirements, provided that he or she was a legal resident at the time of the injury.

(f) Fraud committed by a physician concerning the diagnosis under subsection (a), or a person attempting to obtain money, or by a State official who knowingly helps to defraud the State through an act in relation to the Program shall be a Class 3 felony.

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(g) The George Bailey Memorial Board is created. The Board

shall consist of 5 persons. No member of the Board shall
 receive any stipend, refund, mileage, or expense
 reimbursements.

4 (h) The George Bailey Memorial Fund is created as a special
5 fund in the State treasury. The fund shall be distributed from
6 the Treasurer's office and the administrative moneys described
7 in subsection (b) shall cover those costs.

8 (i) The Board shall be appointed in 2-year renewable terms9 in the following manner:

10 (1) one member shall be appointed by the Speaker of the
11 House of Representatives;

12 (2) one member shall be appointed by the House Minority13 Leader;

14 (3) one member shall be appointed by the President of15 the Senate;

16 (4) one member shall be appointed by the Senate17 Minority Leader; and

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(5) one member shall be appointed by the Governor.

After a member has been appointed to the Board, the person may not be removed except for good cause by the Inspector General. If such a removal occurs, the Governor shall appoint the successor, unless it was the Governor's appointee, in which case the Treasurer shall appoint the successor to serve the remainder of the term. No appointee or any State official may directly or indirectly compensate any Board member.

26 (j) Any legal resident of Illinois is eligible for

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participation in the Program and shall not be disqualified if
 the injury occurs outside of the State.

3 (k) The State shall have lien rights against all 4 settlements or moneys otherwise collected due to the injury 5 under this Act, but if the amount collected is less than the 6 amount owed to the State through the Program, the State may not 7 attached anything beyond the moneys given under the Program.

8 Section 10. Payments to the George Bailey Memorial Fund. 9 Every fire insurance company, whether upon the stock or mutual 10 plan, and every other personal or business entity doing any 11 form of fire insurance business in the State of Illinois, (i) 12 shall pay to the Department of Insurance in the month of March 13 each year such amount as may be assessed by the Department of 14 Insurance, which the Department shall establish after a 15 thorough study and estimate of the amount needed to fund the 16 George Bailey Memorial Program and which may not exceed 1% of the gross fire, sprinkler leakage, riot, civil commotion, 17 explosion and motor vehicle fire risk premium receipts of such 18 19 company or other entity from such business done in the State of 20 Illinois during the preceding year and (ii) shall make an 21 annual report or statement under oath to the Department 22 specifying the amount of such premiums received during the preceding year. The Department of Insurance shall pay the money 23 24 so received into the George Bailey Memorial Fund, to be used as 25 specified in this Act.

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Section 90. The State Finance Act is amended by adding
 Section 5.866 as follows:

- 3 (30 ILCS 105/5.866 new)
- 4 Sec. 5.866. The George Bailey Memorial Fund.