

SB 227-FN - AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE

02/03/2022 0454s

2022 SESSION

22-2946

05/04

SENATE BILL

227-FN

AN ACT relative to death benefits for first responders who die from suicide.

SPONSORS: Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19; Sen. Prentiss, Dist 5; Sen. Carson, Dist 14; Sen. Cavanaugh, Dist 16; Rep. S. Pearson, Rock. 6

COMMITTEE: Executive Departments and Administration

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill includes suicide under the definition of "killed in the line of duty" when considering eligibility for death benefits of first responders. The bill also includes corrections officers in the list of first responders.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struckthrough]~~
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Two

AN ACT relative to death benefits for first responders who die from suicide.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

- 1 1 Killed in the Line of Duty; Suicide Included. Amend RSA 21-I:29-a, I(f) to read as follows:
- 2 (f) "Killed in the line of duty" means a death, ***including suicide***, of a police officer,
- 3 firefighter, emergency medical technician, [or] rescue squad member, ***or corrections officer*** while
- 4 in the performance of his or her duties as a result of incident, accident, or violence causing death or
- 5 injuries which are the direct or proximate cause of death. ***Death by suicide shall be considered a***
- 6 ***work-related cause of death.*** "Incident" shall include any death that is determined to be
- 7 occupationally related by the worker's compensation insurance carrier, a self-insured worker's
- 8 compensation plan, or by the labor commissioner for workers' compensation purposes pursuant to
- 9 RSA 281-A.
- 10 2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

SB 227-FN- FISCAL NOTE
AS AMENDED BY THE SENATE (AMENDMENT #2022-0454s)

AN ACT relative to death benefits for first responders who die from suicide.

FISCAL IMPACT: ☒ State ☐ County ☐ Local ☐ None

STATE:	Estimated Increase / (Decrease)			
	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Appropriation	\$0	Indeterminable	Indeterminable	Indeterminable
Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Expenditures	\$0	Indeterminable	Indeterminable	Indeterminable
Funding Source:	☒ General ☐ Education ☐ Highway ☐ Other			

METHODOLOGY:

This bill expands the eligibility of a \$100,000 line-of-duty death benefit for first responders and correction officers who die from suicide. To the extent an eligible individual is determined to have been killed in the line of duty, general fund appropriations and expenditures would increase.

It is assumed the fiscal impact would not occur until FY 2023.

AGENCIES CONTACTED:

None