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## DIGEST

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HB 231 Engrossed

2025 Regular Session

Chassion

**Abstract:** Extends health insurance coverage for the families of law enforcement officers and firemen killed in the line of duty.

Present law requires the employer of a law enforcement officer who is killed in the course of the performance of his official duties or arising out of any activity on or off duty in his capacity as a law enforcement officer, in the protection of life or property, to provide and pay for health insurance coverage for the law enforcement officer's surviving spouse for two years following the death of the law enforcement officer. Requires the employer to provide and pay for health insurance coverage for the law enforcement officer's surviving child for as long as the child remains qualified for the benefit or two years, whichever comes first.

Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law extends health insurance coverage for the remainder of the life of a law enforcement officer's surviving spouse or the surviving spouse of a fireman. Extends health insurance coverage of the law enforcement officer's child, stepchild, or adopted child who is any of the following:

- (1) Under the age of 18.
- (2) Under the age of 23 and enrolled in and regularly attending a secondary school or is a full-time student at an accredited college or university.
- (3) Physically or mentally disabled.

Proposed law requires health insurance coverage for children until a child no longer meets the specified qualifications.

The provisions of proposed law are only applicable in a parish with a population of not less than 240,000 persons and no more than 250,000 persons based on the latest federal decennial census.

Proposed law applies retroactively to Jan. 1, 2017.

(Adds R.S. 40:1665(D) and 1665.2(H))

### Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Appropriations to the original

bill:

1. Restore present law regarding the two-year limitation for health insurance benefits for spouses and children of law enforcement officers who were killed in the line of duty.
2. Change the applicability of the bill from statewide application to a parish with a population of not less than 240,000 and no more than 255,000 persons.
3. Limit the retroactive applicability to Jan. 1, 2017.