
DIGEST

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HB 430 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Chassion

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

Present law requires the employer of a law enforcement officer or fireman 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 or fireman, in the protection of life or property, to provide and pay for health insurance coverage for the law enforcement officer's or fireman's surviving spouse for two years following the death of the law enforcement officer or fireman. Requires the employer to provide and pay for health insurance coverage for the law enforcement officer's or fireman's surviving children, stepchildren, and adopted children for as long as the child remains qualified for the benefit or two years, whichever comes first.

Proposed law retains present law.

Proposed law enacts the "MJ 911 Act" in memory of officers lost in the line of duty.

Proposed law requires the employer of a law enforcement officer or fireman employed in Lafayette Parish to provide health insurance coverage until the law enforcement officer's surviving spouse or the surviving spouse of a fireman reaches Medicare eligibility. Extends health insurance coverage to the law enforcement officer's or fireman's child, stepchild, or adopted child who is any of the following:

- (1) Under the age of 26.
- (2) Physically or mentally disabled.

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

Proposed law applies retroactively to Jan. 1, 2017.

(Adds R.S. 40:1665.5 and 1665.6)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

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

bill:

1. Changes the termination of health insurance coverage for a deceased fireman or law enforcement officer's surviving spouse from the remainder of the surviving spouse's life to until the surviving spouse reaches Medicare eligibility.
2. Changes the age until which a deceased law enforcement officer or fireman's child, stepchild, or adopted child qualifies for health insurance coverage pursuant to proposed law from 18 years of age to 26 years of age.
3. Removes provision requiring coverage if a child, stepchild, or adopted child is under the age of 23 and enrolled in secondary school or an accredited college or university.