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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Heyward Jeffers.

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## DIGEST

Adley (SB 1)

Present law (R.S. 22:941(A)(5)) provides for the state to pay a \$250,000 death benefit and a \$100,000 permanent total disability benefit for the death or disability of a Louisiana National Guardsman. Specifies that such benefits shall be provided only during periods of activation ordered by the governor of Louisiana or by the President of the United States in the course of the business of the military forces of Louisiana.

Proposed law provides generally relative to the payment of benefits for the death or disability of a Louisiana National Guardsman called to active service by the governor or the President of the United States. Provides for purpose and definition of terms.

Proposed law provides that the Louisiana National Guard (LANG) adjutant general shall be the authority to whom death benefits claims shall be submitted for determination, and \$250,000 lump-sum payment for each qualified death claim shall be made by the Military Department, State of Louisiana.

Proposed law provides that disability claims shall be determined by the Department of Veterans Affairs or the LANG state surgeon for guardsmen in accordance with the workers' compensation law of this state and shall be certified by the Louisiana secretary of veterans affairs or his designee.

Proposed law provides for a lump-sum payment of \$100,000 for each qualified disability benefit claim to be made by the La. Department of Veterans Affairs after receipt of a request for payment.

Proposed law provides for documentation required for death and disability claims.

Proposed law provides that all members of the LANG shall complete and execute a Death Benefit Beneficiary Designation form which shall contain the name of the beneficiary or beneficiaries of the guardsman's death benefit. Provides that, in the absence of a Death Benefit Beneficiary Designation form, a DD Form 93 shall be used.

Proposed law provides that the Death Benefit Beneficiary form shall be signed by the guardsman in the presence of a LANG witness in the grade of E-7 or above.

Proposed law removes authority for certain lump sum payments of death and permanent disability benefits for Louisiana National Guardsmen activated by the governor or the President of the United States.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 29:26.1; repeals R.S. 22:941(A)(5))