

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS

House Bill No. 143 by Representative Lorusso

MILITARY AFFAIRS: Provides for death and disability benefits for La. National Guardsmen

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

- 1. Deletes provisions providing for benefits when a guardsman is injured, killed or otherwise died in the line of duty, and adds provisions providing benefits when a guardsman is injured or killed.
- 2. Deletes provisions providing that claims for death and disability benefits shall be submitted in accordance with procedures established by administrative rule, and adds provisions requiring claims to be submitted to the La. National Guard.
- 3. Provides for the documentation to be included in the death benefit claim request.
- 4. Deletes provisions correcting statutory reference to death and disability benefit provisions in R.S. 23:1211.
- 5. Provides for additional definitions.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Proposed law provides for death benefits in the amount of \$250,000 for guardsmen killed in the line of duty and disability benefits in the amount of \$100,000 for guardsmen injured in the line of duty. Provides that benefits shall be available for guardsmen activated by the governor or president of the U.S. subsequent to Sept. 11, 2001.

Proposed law provides for the following exceptions:

- (1) The guardsman was not in the line of duty at the time of death or injury.
- (2) The guardsman was killed or injured while in training status, with the exception of training pursuant to 32 USC 502(f)(2)(A).

Proposed law requires claims for death and disability benefits to be submitted to the La. National Guard. Requires each death benefit claim request to include certain documentation.

Proposed law provides that death benefit eligibility shall be made by the adjutant general of the La. National Guard. Provides that a qualifying disability shall be determined by the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs and certified by the La. Dept. of Veterans Affairs, or his designee.

Proposed law requires each member of the La. National Guard to complete and execute a Death Benefit Beneficiary Designation Form to name the beneficiary of the guardsman's death benefit

Proposed law provides for definitions.

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