

HOUSE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE BILL NO. 218

A bill to amend 2004 PA 46, entitled  
"Public safety officers benefit act,"  
by amending the title and section 2 (MCL 28.632) and by adding  
section 4a.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

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TITLE

An act to provide compensation **AND OTHER BENEFITS** to  
dependents of public safety officers who are killed or who are  
permanently and totally disabled in the line of duty; to create the  
public safety officers benefit fund; to prescribe the duties and  
responsibilities of certain state officers; and to make an  
appropriation.

Sec. 2. As used in this act:

1 (a) "Commission" means the commission on law enforcement  
2 standards created under the commission on law enforcement standards  
3 act, 1965 PA 203, MCL 28.601 to 28.616.

4 (b) "Dependent" means any individual who was substantially  
5 reliant for support upon the income of the deceased public safety  
6 officer.

7 (c) "Direct and proximate" means that the antecedent event is  
8 a substantial factor in the result.

9 (d) "Firefighter" means a regularly employed member of a fire  
10 department of a city, county, township, village, state university,  
11 or community college **OR ANY AUTHORITY, DISTRICT, BOARD, OR OTHER**  
12 **ENTITY CREATED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY 1 OR MORE CITIES, COUNTIES,**  
13 **VILLAGES, OR TOWNSHIPS,** or a member of the department of natural  
14 resources who is employed to fight fires. Firefighter includes a  
15 volunteer member of a fire department.

16 (e) "Law enforcement officer" means an individual involved in  
17 crime and juvenile delinquency control or reduction or enforcement  
18 of the criminal law. Law enforcement officer includes police,  
19 corrections, probation, parole, bailiffs, or other similar court  
20 officers.

21 (f) "Line of duty" means either of the following:

22 (i) Any action which an officer whose primary function is  
23 crime control or reduction, enforcement of the criminal law, or  
24 suppression of fires is obligated or authorized by rule,  
25 regulations, condition of employment or service, or law to perform,  
26 including those social, ceremonial, or athletic functions to which  
27 the officer is assigned, or for which the officer is compensated,

1 by the public agency he or she serves. For other officers, line of  
2 duty means any action the officer is so obligated or authorized to  
3 perform in the course or controlling or reducing crime, enforcing  
4 the criminal law, or suppressing fires.

5 (ii) Any action which an officially recognized or designated  
6 public employee member of a rescue squad or ambulance crew is  
7 obligated or authorized by rule, regulation, condition of  
8 employment or service, or law to perform.

9 (G) **"MEDICAL BENEFIT PLAN" MEANS A PLAN TO PROVIDE FOR THE**  
10 **PAYMENT OF MEDICAL, OPTICAL, OR DENTAL BENEFITS, INCLUDING, BUT NOT**  
11 **LIMITED TO, HOSPITAL AND PHYSICIAN SERVICES, PRESCRIPTION DRUGS,**  
12 **AND RELATED BENEFITS.**

13 (H) ~~(g)~~—"Member of a rescue squad or ambulance crew" means **AN**  
14 **EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN, A MEDICAL FIRST RESPONDER, OR A**  
15 **PARAMEDIC, AS THOSE TERMS ARE DEFINED IN SECTIONS 20904, 20906, AND**  
16 **20908 OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH CODE, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.20904,**  
17 **333.20906, AND 333.20908, OR** an officially recognized or designated  
18 employee or volunteer member of a rescue squad or ambulance crew.

19 (I) ~~(h)~~—"Permanent and total disability" means medically  
20 determinable consequences of a catastrophic, line-of-duty injury  
21 that permanently prevent a former public safety officer from  
22 performing any gainful work.

23 (J) ~~(i)~~—"Public safety officer" **OR "OFFICER"** means any  
24 individual serving a public agency **OR ANY AUTHORITY, DISTRICT,**  
25 **BOARD, OR OTHER ENTITY CREATED IN WHOLE OR IN PART BY 1 OR MORE**  
26 **CITIES, COUNTIES, VILLAGES, OR TOWNSHIPS,** in an official capacity,  
27 with or without compensation, as a law enforcement officer,

1 firefighter, ~~rescue squad member, or ambulance crew member.~~OR  
2 MEMBER OF A RESCUE SQUAD OR AMBULANCE CREW.

3 (K) ~~(j)~~ "Surviving spouse" means the husband or wife of the  
4 deceased officer at the time of the officer's death, and includes a  
5 spouse living apart from the officer at the time of the officer's  
6 death for any reason.

7 SEC. 4A. (1) IF A PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER DIES AS A DIRECT AND  
8 PROXIMATE RESULT OF A PERSONAL INJURY SUSTAINED IN THE LINE OF DUTY  
9 ON OR AFTER THE EFFECTIVE DATE OF THE AMENDATORY ACT THAT ADDED  
10 THIS SECTION, THIS STATE, UPON NOTICE TO THE OFFICE OF RETIREMENT  
11 SERVICES FROM THE PUBLIC AGENCY OR ENTITY THE OFFICER SERVED, AND  
12 SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION, SHALL PROVIDE TO THE DECEDENT'S SURVIVING  
13 SPOUSE AND DEPENDENT CHILDREN A COMPARABLE MEDICAL BENEFIT PLAN ON  
14 COMPARABLE TERMS TO THE MEDICAL BENEFIT PLAN OFFERED TO MICHIGAN  
15 STATE POLICE TROOPER RETIREES, INCLUDING ANY CHANGE TO THE MEDICAL  
16 BENEFIT PLAN AFTER THE PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER'S DEATH. COVERAGE FOR  
17 A SURVIVING SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT CHILD UNDER THIS SECTION IS NOT  
18 REQUIRED TO BE PROVIDED FOR MORE THAN 60 MONTHS AFTER THE PUBLIC  
19 SAFETY OFFICER'S DEATH. COVERAGE UNDER THIS SECTION IS NOT REQUIRED  
20 TO BE PROVIDED DURING ANY PERIOD DURING WHICH THE SURVIVING SPOUSE  
21 OR DEPENDENT CHILD, RESPECTIVELY, HAS QUALIFIED FOR AND IS COVERED  
22 BY A MEDICAL BENEFIT PLAN FROM ANOTHER SOURCE. COVERAGE PROVIDED  
23 UNDER THIS SECTION ENDS FOR A SURVIVING SPOUSE UPON MEDICARE  
24 ELIGIBILITY. COVERAGE FOR A DEPENDENT CHILD IS NOT REQUIRED TO BE  
25 PROVIDED UNDER THIS SECTION AFTER THE LIMITING AGE FOR A DEPENDENT  
26 CHILD OR ANOTHER TERMINATING EVENT THAT IS PROVIDED IN THE MEDICAL  
27 BENEFIT PLAN FOR MICHIGAN STATE POLICE TROOPER RETIREES. HOWEVER,

1 IF 42 USC 300GG-14 REQUIRES THAT DEPENDENT CHILD ELIGIBILITY BE  
2 APPLIED MORE BROADLY, THIS STATE SHALL MAKE THE COVERAGE AVAILABLE  
3 IN COMPLIANCE WITH THAT LAW.

4 (2) THIS SECTION DOES NOT REQUIRE THIS STATE TO PROVIDE  
5 MEDICAL BENEFITS TO A SURVIVING SPOUSE OR DEPENDENT CHILD WHO, AS A  
6 RESULT OF THE PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER'S DEATH AND INDEPENDENT OF THIS  
7 SECTION, WOULD RECEIVE BENEFITS UNDER A MEDICAL BENEFIT PLAN  
8 THROUGH A RETIREMENT SYSTEM ADMINISTERED BY THIS STATE.

9 (3) IN A MANNER DETERMINED BY THE OFFICE OF RETIREMENT  
10 SERVICES, THE OFFICE OF RETIREMENT SERVICES SHALL ADMINISTER  
11 BENEFITS PROVIDED UNDER THIS SECTION AS PART OF THE MICHIGAN STATE  
12 POLICE TROOPER RETIREE MEDICAL BENEFIT PLAN AND MAY COORDINATE THE  
13 FUNDING OR PREFUNDING OF THOSE BENEFITS. THE OFFICE OF RETIREMENT  
14 SERVICES SHALL DETERMINE, AT ITS SOLE DISCRETION, IF A MEDICAL  
15 BENEFIT PLAN IS COMPARABLE AND OFFERED ON COMPARABLE TERMS TO THE  
16 MEDICAL BENEFIT PLAN OFFERED TO MICHIGAN STATE POLICE TROOPER  
17 RETIREES FOR PURPOSES OF DETERMINING THE MEDICAL BENEFIT PLAN THAT  
18 WILL BE OFFERED UNDER THIS SECTION.

19 (4) FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "DEPENDENT CHILD" MEANS ANY  
20 OF THE FOLLOWING DEPENDENTS WITH RESPECT TO THE DECEASED PUBLIC  
21 SAFETY OFFICER:

22 (A) HIS OR HER UNMARRIED NATURAL OR ADOPTED CHILD.

23 (B) A CHILD LAWFULLY PLACED FOR ADOPTION WITH THE PUBLIC  
24 SAFETY OFFICER.

25 (C) HIS OR HER STEPCHILD.

26 (D) A CHILD UNDER THE AGE OF 18 IF FULL LEGAL GUARDIANSHIP WAS  
27 AWARDED TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER.

1           (5) IF A DEPENDENT CHILD OF A DECEASED PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER  
2 IS RECEIVING COVERAGE UNDER THIS SECTION, A CHILD OF THE DEPENDENT  
3 CHILD IS NOT ALSO A DEPENDENT CHILD FOR PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION.

4           Enacting section 1. This amendatory act takes effect 90 days  
5 after the date it is enacted into law.