SENATE BILL No. 487

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 5-10-8-2.3.

Synopsis: Health coverage for certain disabled officers. Requires a local government unit that employs an individual as a police officer, county police officer, or sheriff who is disabled in the line of duty to offer to provide and pay for certain health coverage for the individual and the individual's spouse, surviving spouse, and certain children.

Effective: July 1, 2011.

Young R Michael

January 13, 2011, read first time and referred to Committee on Local Government.

C o p y

Introduced

First Regular Session 117th General Assembly (2011)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type.~~

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~*this style type*~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2010 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

C o p y

SENATE BILL No. 487

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning state and local administration.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

SECTION 1. IC 5-10-8-2.3 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2011]: **Sec. 2.3. (a) This section applies only to local unit public employers described in section 2.2 of this chapter with respect to public safety employees who are disabled in the line of duty.**

(b) As used in this section, "disabled in the line of duty" refers to a disability that occurs as a direct result of personal injury or illness caused by incident, accident, or violence that results from any action that an individual in the individual's capacity as a public safety employee:

(1) is obligated or authorized by rule, regulation, condition of employment or service, or law to perform; or

(2) performs in the course of controlling or reducing crime or enforcing the criminal law.

The term includes a disability presumed incurred in the line of duty under IC 5-10-13.

(c) As used in this section, "public safety employee" means a

full-time police officer, county police officer, or sheriff.

(d) A local unit public employer that employs a public safety employee who is disabled in the line of duty shall, after June 30, 2011, offer to provide and pay for health insurance coverage for:

(1) the public safety employee;

(2) the public safety employee's spouse or surviving spouse; and

(3) each natural child, stepchild, or adopted child of the public safety employee during the longest period of the following:

(A) Until the child becomes eighteen (18) years of age.

(B) Until the child becomes twenty-three (23) years of age if the child is enrolled in and regularly attending a secondary school or is a full-time student at an accredited college or university.

(C) During the entire period of the child's physical or mental disability.

If group health insurance coverage is offered by the local unit to active public safety employees under section 2.2 of this chapter, the health insurance provided under this section must be equal in coverage to that offered to active public safety employees. The offer to provide and pay for health insurance coverage must remain open for as long as the public safety employee, spouse, surviving spouse, or child of the public safety employee is eligible for the coverage under subsection (e), (f), (g), or (h).

(e) A public safety employee's eligibility under this section ends on the earliest of the following:

(1) When the public safety employee is no longer disabled.

(2) When the public safety employee is eligible for Medicare coverage as prescribed by 42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.

(3) When the local unit terminates the health insurance program for active public safety employees.

(f) A spouse's eligibility under this section ends on the earliest of the following:

(1) When the public safety employee is no longer disabled.

(2) When the spouse is eligible for Medicare coverage as prescribed by 42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.

(3) When the local unit terminates the health insurance program for active public safety employees.

(g) A surviving spouse's eligibility under this section ends on the earliest of the following:

(1) When the surviving spouse is eligible for Medicare coverage as prescribed by 42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.

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(2) When the local unit terminates the health insurance program for active public safety employees.

(3) On the date of the surviving spouse's remarriage.

(h) A child's eligibility under this section ends on the earliest of the following:

(1) When the public safety employee is alive and no longer disabled.

(2) When the child is eligible for Medicare coverage as prescribed by 42 U.S.C. 1395 et seq.

(3) When the local unit terminates the health insurance program for active public safety employees.

(4) When the child no longer meets the criteria set forth in subsection (d)(3).

C o p y