



State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 476

HOUSE BILL NO. 466

By Representatives Lynn, Byrd, Rudd, Ramsey, Carter, Tillis, McCormick, Alexander, Staples, Hazlewood, Mark White, Powell, Powers, Stewart, Mitchell, Thompson, Hardaway, Parkinson, Moody, Zachary, Gravitt

Substituted for: Senate Bill No. 822

By Senators Haile, Bailey, Yager

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 27, relative to health insurance benefits for families of first responders.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 27, Part 2, is amended by adding the following new section:

(a) As used in this section, "first responder" means paid, full-time law enforcement officers and firefighters who are employed by the state or a local government in this state. "First responder" also includes capitol police officers and employees of the Tennessee highway patrol, Tennessee bureau of investigation, and Tennessee wildlife resource agency.

(b) The state insurance committee may, in approving a health insurance plan that covers first responders, offer or continue to provide health insurance benefits to the surviving spouse and children, including any unborn child, of a first responder killed in the line of duty for a period not to exceed two (2) years after the death of the first responder.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 27, Part 4, is amended by adding the following new section:

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "First responder" means paid, full-time law enforcement officers and firefighters who are employed by a local government in this state; and

(2) "Local government" means any county, metropolitan government, municipality, or other political subdivision of this state.

(b) If a local government offers health insurance benefits to first responders, the local government may offer or continue to provide health insurance benefits to the surviving spouse and children, including any unborn child, of a first responder killed in the line of duty for a period not to exceed two (2) years after the death of the first responder.

(c) If a local government offers or provides health insurance benefits in accordance with subsection (b), the local government shall notify the commissioner of finance and administration.

(d) This state shall reimburse any local government that provides health insurance benefits in accordance with this section in an amount equal to that portion of health insurance premiums and benefits for which the local government is responsible under the health insurance policy.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: May 9, 2017

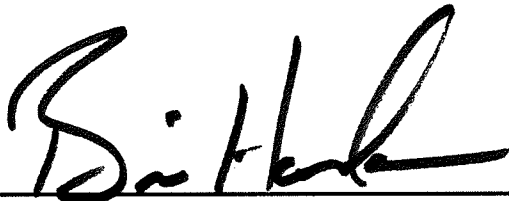


BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



RANDY MCNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 6th day of June 2017



BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR