

JOINT COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICE
2025-2026 (194th) BILL SUMMARY

Bill Number: H.2853
Title: *An Act relative to PTSD and accidental disability*
Sponsor(s): Rep. Kenneth I. Gordon (*Bedford*)
Hearing Date: May 28, 2025
Reporting Deadline: July 26, 2025

Prior History:

New File

Similar Matters: S.1788 (Brady – Identical)

CURRENT LAW:

Section 7 of chapter 32 outlines the requirements for accidental disability retirement, how the benefits are calculated, and what benefits the member's beneficiaries will receive upon their death. Specifically, paragraph (a) of subdivision (3) of section 7 of chapter 32 states that if a member does not disclose an injury covered under this section but they received workman's compensation under chapter 152 or were classified in group 2, group 3, or group 4 and not covered by chapter 152 and there is a record of the injury on file with their agency, they may apply for accidental disability under this section.

SUMMARY:

The bill amends paragraph (a) of subdivision (3) of section 7 of chapter 32 by adding that if the member or their beneficiary are filing for benefits under this section or section 9 (accidental death) and there was a lapse of time or failure to file notice of the injury, they may still proceed with applying for these benefits if they are being sought on the basis of an emotional or psychological injury. If this is the case, the member or beneficiary may use the official records of the employer as proof of the injury. The records must show that the member responded to and was directly involved in an incident.