

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

Bill Number: H.2913
Title: *An Act relative to public safety line of duty benefits*
Sponsor(s): Rep. Paul McMurtry (*Dedham*)
Hearing Date: June 2, 2025
Reporting Deadline: August 1, 2025

Prior History:

2023-24 (H.2601): Reported favorably; Referred to HWM
2021-22 (H.2728): Reported favorably; Referred to HWM
2019-20 (H.2325): Reported favorably, Referred to HWM

CURRENT LAW:

M.G.L. c. 32 § 100A – Killed –in-line-of-duty benefits: A one-time \$300,000 payment will be made to the family of public safety employees who are killed or sustained injuries that resulted in their death while performing their duties. Specifically, subsection (c) of this section defines “deceased public safety employee” to mean any firefighter, any call, volunteer, auxiliary, intermittent, or reserve firefighter, any call, volunteer, auxiliary, intermittent, or reserve emergency medical services provider who is a member of a police or fire department and not subject to chapter 152, any police officer, any auxiliary, intermittent, part-time, or reserve police officer, any police officer employed by a public higher education institution under section 5 of chapter 15A, any public prosecutor, any municipal or public emergency medical technician and a correction officer who was killed in the line of duty or sustained injuries on duty that led to their death. Subsection (d) defines “family” as the surviving spouse of the deceased public safety employee, or if there is no surviving spouse, the child or children of the deceased public safety employee, or if there are no children, the parents of the deceased public safety employee.

SUMMARY:

The bill amends section 100A of chapter 32 by striking out the phrase “and who is not subject to chapter 152” and inserting in its place language that would allow the family of a deceased public safety employee who is subject to chapter 152 (workers’ compensation) to have the option to choose the benefits in this section or those pursuant to chapter 152.