

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

Bill Number: H.2857

Title: *An Act relative to court officers injured in service of the state*

Sponsor(s): Rep. Richard M. Haggerty (*Woburn*)

Hearing Date: June 2, 2025

Reporting Deadline: August 1, 2025

Prior History:
2023-24 (H.2544): Ordered to a House Study
2021-22 (H.4305): Ordered to a House Study

Similar Matters: S.1849 (Feeney)

CURRENT LAW:

M.G.L. c. 30 § 58 – Injuries sustained in service of the state; compensation: Any employee of the Commonwealth who is eligible to receive workers' compensation under chapter 152 who sustains injuries on the job and has sufficient sick leave time accrued will be granted a leave of absence with pay for each day they are absent due to their injuries. If a court officer sustains injuries resulting from acts of violence in the courtroom, public areas, holding areas, or other designated areas or from subduing escaping prisoners, they will be paid the difference between the weekly cash benefits entitled to them under chapter 152 and their regular salary and the absence will not be charged to their sick leave.

SUMMARY:

The bill amends section 58 of chapter 30 by adding in the fourth paragraph that all amounts payable to a court officer under this section will be paid at the same times and manners as their regular compensation.

This bill additionally amends section 58 of chapter 30 by adding a paragraph stating that if a court officer is granted leave and compensation under this section, whoever intentionally or negligently injures the officer will be liable in tort for paying all costs incurred by replacing the injured officer which are in excess of the amount of compensation paid.