General Assembly

Senate

File No. 775

January Session, 2025

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1443

Senate, April 28, 2025

The Committee on Judiciary reported through SEN. WINFIELD of the 10th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROVISION OF SURVIVOR'S BENEFITS AND HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE TO FAMILY MEMBERS OF CORRECTION OFFICERS, COURT SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION INVESTIGATORS, CRIMINAL JUSTICE DIVISION INVESTIGATORS AND OFFICE OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER INVESTIGATORS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2025*) (a) As used in this section:
- 2 (1) "Dependent child" means a child, whether by blood or adoption,
- 3 of a correction officer or investigator, who (A) is under the age of
- 4 twenty-two and was dependent on the earnings of such officer or
- 5 investigator at the time of such officer's or investigator's death, provided
- 6 a child shall not be considered dependent if such child provides more
- 7 than half of such child's own support, is married or is legally adopted
- 8 by another person, or (B) is any age and is physically or mentally
- 9 incapacitated and was dependent on the earnings of such officer or
- 10 investigator at the time of such officer's or investigator's death.

(2) "Killed in the line of duty" means the death of a correction officer or investigator while engaged in the performance of such officer's or investigator's duties, resulting from an incident, an accident or violence that caused such death or caused injuries that were the direct or proximate cause of such officer's or investigator's death, including any death that is determined to be occupationally related by a workers' compensation insurance carrier, an employer to whom a certificate of self-insurance has been issued pursuant to section 31-248 of the general statutes or an administrative law judge for workers' compensation purposes under chapter 568 of the general statutes. "Killed in the line of duty" does not include the death of an officer or investigator whose death results from such officer's or investigator's own wanton or wilful act.

- 24 (3) "Correction officer" means an individual employed by the 25 Department of Correction as a correction officer.
- (4) "Investigator" means an individual employed by (A) the Court
 Support Services Division of the Judicial Department as an investigator,
 (B) the Division of Criminal Justice as an investigator, or (C) the Office
 of the Chief Public Defender as an investigator.
 - (5) "Surviving family" means any person who is a surviving spouse, surviving dependent child, surviving child who is not a dependent child or surviving parent of a correction officer or an investigator killed in the line of duty, or a surviving individual listed on such officer's or investigator's most recent beneficiary form on file with such officer's or investigator's employing state agency.
 - (b) There is established a fund to be known as the "Fallen Officer and Investigator Fund". The fund may contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the fund and shall be held by the Treasurer separate and apart from all other moneys, funds and accounts. The interest derived from the investment of the fund shall be credited to the fund. Amounts in the fund may be expended by the Comptroller for purposes of payments pursuant to subsection (c) of this section. Any balance remaining in the fund at the end of any fiscal year shall be carried

44 forward in the fund for the fiscal year next succeeding.

(c) (1) After receiving notice, in a form and manner as determined by the Comptroller, from an individual who is a member of the surviving family of a correction officer or an investigator who was killed in the line of duty, the Comptroller shall pay, within available appropriations, a lump sum death benefit totaling one hundred thousand dollars from the fund established in subsection (b) of this section to such surviving family, in accordance with regulations adopted pursuant to subsection (e) of this section, provided the surviving family of a correction officer or an investigator killed in the line of duty shall not receive more than one such lump sum death benefit. Payments shall be made to surviving families in the order in which notices are received until the amount in such fund is depleted.

- (2) Any payment made pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection shall be in addition to any other benefits for which individuals of such officer's or investigator's surviving family are eligible and such payments shall not be reduced or offset due to any other benefits, including, but not limited to, workers' compensation or other survivor benefits.
- (d) Not later than July 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, the Comptroller shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the judiciary. Such report shall include a list of all expenditures made from the fund established by subsection (b) of this section during the prior year, the current balance of such fund and information regarding additional amounts needed for such fund.
- (e) The Comptroller shall adopt regulations in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes to implement the provisions of this section, including, but not limited to, application procedures and criteria for awarding grants among individuals who are members of the surviving family, with priority given to awards that would benefit a dependent child or children and a spouse who is a

77 member of the surviving family. The Comptroller may implement 78 policies and procedures necessary to implement the provisions of this 79 section while in the process of adopting such regulations, provided 80 notice of intent to adopt such regulations is published on the 81 eRegulations System not later than twenty days after the date of 82 implementation of such policies and procedures. Any policies and 83 procedures implemented under this subsection shall be valid until the 84 time such regulations are adopted.

- 85 Sec. 2. Subparagraph (B) of subdivision (20) of subsection (a) of 86 section 12-701 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is 87 substituted in lieu thereof (Effective July 1, 2025, and applicable to taxable 88 years commencing on or after January 1, 2025):
- 89 (B) There shall be subtracted therefrom:
- 90 (i) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal 91 income tax purposes, any income with respect to which taxation by any 92 state is prohibited by federal law;
- 93 (ii) To the extent allowable under section 12-718, exempt dividends 94 paid by a regulated investment company;
 - (iii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, the amount of any refund or credit for overpayment of income taxes imposed by this state, or any other state of the United States or a political subdivision thereof, or the District of Columbia;
- 100 (iv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes and not otherwise subtracted from federal 102 adjusted gross income pursuant to clause (x) of this subparagraph in computing Connecticut adjusted gross income, any tier 1 railroad retirement benefits;
 - (v) To the extent any additional allowance for depreciation under Section 168(k) of the Internal Revenue Code for property placed in service after September 27, 2017, was added to federal adjusted gross

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income pursuant to subparagraph (A)(ix) of this subdivision in computing Connecticut adjusted gross income, twenty-five per cent of such additional allowance for depreciation in each of the four succeeding taxable years;

- (vi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, any interest income from obligations issued by or on behalf of the state of Connecticut, any political subdivision thereof, or public instrumentality, state or local authority, district or similar public entity created under the laws of the state of Connecticut;
- (vii) To the extent properly includable in determining the net gain or loss from the sale or other disposition of capital assets for federal income tax purposes, any gain from the sale or exchange of obligations issued by or on behalf of the state of Connecticut, any political subdivision thereof, or public instrumentality, state or local authority, district or similar public entity created under the laws of the state of Connecticut, in the income year such gain was recognized;
 - (viii) Any interest on indebtedness incurred or continued to purchase or carry obligations or securities the interest on which is subject to tax under this chapter but exempt from federal income tax, to the extent that such interest on indebtedness is not deductible in determining federal adjusted gross income and is attributable to a trade or business carried on by such individual;
 - (ix) Ordinary and necessary expenses paid or incurred during the taxable year for the production or collection of income which is subject to taxation under this chapter but exempt from federal income tax, or the management, conservation or maintenance of property held for the production of such income, and the amortizable bond premium for the taxable year on any bond the interest on which is subject to tax under this chapter but exempt from federal income tax, to the extent that such expenses and premiums are not deductible in determining federal adjusted gross income and are attributable to a trade or business carried on by such individual;

(x) (I) For taxable years commencing prior to January 1, 2019, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than fifty thousand dollars, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than fifty thousand dollars, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than sixty thousand dollars or a person who files a return under the federal income tax as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than sixty thousand dollars, an amount equal to the Social Security benefits includable for federal income tax purposes;

(II) For taxable years commencing prior to January 1, 2019, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is fifty thousand dollars or more, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is fifty thousand dollars or more, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income from such taxable year is sixty thousand dollars or more or for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is sixty thousand dollars or more, an amount equal to the difference between the amount of Social Security benefits includable for federal income tax purposes and the lesser of twenty-five per cent of the Social Security benefits received during the taxable year, or twenty-five per cent of the excess described in Section 86(b)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code;

(III) For the taxable year commencing January 1, 2019, and each taxable year thereafter, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross

income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars or a person who files a return under the federal income tax as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, an amount equal to the Social Security benefits includable for federal income tax purposes; and

- (IV) For the taxable year commencing January 1, 2019, and each taxable year thereafter, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is seventy-five thousand dollars or more, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is seventy-five thousand dollars or more, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income from such taxable year is one hundred thousand dollars or more or for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is one hundred thousand dollars or more, an amount equal to the difference between the amount of Social Security benefits includable for federal income tax purposes and the lesser of twenty-five per cent of the Social Security benefits received during the taxable year, or twenty-five per cent of the excess described in Section 86(b)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code;
- (xi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, any amount rebated to a taxpayer pursuant to section 12-746;
- (xii) To the extent properly includable in the gross income for federal income tax purposes of a designated beneficiary, any distribution to such beneficiary from any qualified state tuition program, as defined in Section 529(b) of the Internal Revenue Code, established and maintained by this state or any official, agency or instrumentality of the

207 state;

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208 (xiii) To the extent allowable under section 12-701a, contributions to 209 accounts established pursuant to any qualified state tuition program, as 210 defined in Section 529(b) of the Internal Revenue Code, established and 211 maintained by this state or any official, agency or instrumentality of the 212 state;

- 213 (xiv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal 214 income tax purposes, the amount of any Holocaust victims' settlement payment received in the taxable year by a Holocaust victim;
- 216 (xv) To the extent properly includable in the gross income for federal 217 income tax purposes of a designated beneficiary, as defined in section 218 3-123aa, interest, dividends or capital gains earned on contributions to 219 accounts established for the designated beneficiary pursuant to the 220 Connecticut Homecare Option Program for the Elderly established by 221 sections 3-123aa to 3-123ff, inclusive;
- 222 (xvi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal 223 income tax purposes, any income received from the United States 224 government as retirement pay for a retired member of (I) the Armed 225 Forces of the United States, as defined in Section 101 of Title 10 of the 226 United States Code, or (II) the National Guard, as defined in Section 101 227 of Title 10 of the United States Code;
- 228 (xvii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal 229 income tax purposes for the taxable year, any income from the discharge 230 of indebtedness in connection with any reacquisition, after December 231 31, 2008, and before January 1, 2011, of an applicable debt instrument or 232 instruments, as those terms are defined in Section 108 of the Internal 233 Revenue Code, as amended by Section 1231 of the American Recovery 234 and Reinvestment Act of 2009, to the extent any such income was added 235 to federal adjusted gross income pursuant to subparagraph (A)(xi) of 236 this subdivision in computing Connecticut adjusted gross income for a 237 preceding taxable year;

(xviii) To the extent not deductible in determining federal adjusted gross income, the amount of any contribution to a manufacturing reinvestment account established pursuant to section 32-9zz in the taxable year that such contribution is made;

(xix) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, (I) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2015, ten per cent of the income received from the state teachers' retirement system, (II) for the taxable years commencing January 1, 2016, to January 1, 2020, inclusive, twenty-five per cent of the income received from the state teachers' retirement system, and (III) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2021, and each taxable year thereafter, fifty per cent of the income received from the state teachers' retirement system or, for a taxpayer whose federal adjusted gross income does not exceed the applicable threshold under clause (xx) of this subparagraph, the percentage pursuant to said clause of the income received from the state teachers' retirement system, whichever deduction is greater;

(xx) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, except for retirement benefits under clause (iv) of this subparagraph and retirement pay under clause (xvi) of this subparagraph, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, (I) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2019, fourteen per cent of any pension or annuity income, (II) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2020, twenty-eight per cent of any pension or annuity income, (III) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2021, forty-two per cent of any

pension or annuity income, and (IV) for the taxable years commencing January 1, 2022, and January 1, 2023, one hundred per cent of any pension or annuity income;

(xxi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, except for retirement benefits under clause (iv) of this subparagraph and retirement pay under clause (xvi) of this subparagraph, any pension or annuity income for the taxable year commencing on or after January 1, 2024, and each taxable year thereafter, in accordance with the following schedule, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, or as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars:

T1	Federal Adjusted Gross Income	Deduction
T2	Less than \$75,000	100.0%
Т3	\$75,000 but not over \$77,499	85.0%
T4	\$77,500 but not over \$79,999	70.0%
T5	\$80,000 but not over \$82,499	55.0%
Т6	\$82,500 but not over \$84,999	40.0%
T7	\$85,000 but not over \$87,499	25.0%
Т8	\$87,500 but not over \$89,999	10.0%
Т9	\$90,000 but not over \$94,999	5.0%
T10	\$95,000 but not over \$99,999	2.5%
T11	\$100,000 and over	0.0%

(xxii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, except for retirement benefits under clause (iv) of this subparagraph and retirement pay under clause (xvi) of this subparagraph, any pension or annuity income for the taxable year commencing on or after January 1, 2024, and each taxable year

thereafter, in accordance with the following schedule for married individuals who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred fifty thousand dollars:

T12	Federal Adjusted Gross Income	Deduction
T13	Less than \$100,000	100.0%
T14	\$100,000 but not over \$104,999	85.0%
T15	\$105,000 but not over \$109,999	70.0%
T16	\$110,000 but not over \$114,999	55.0%
T17	\$115,000 but not over \$119,999	40.0%
T18	\$120,000 but not over \$124,999	25.0%
T19	\$125,000 but not over \$129,999	10.0%
T20	\$130,000 but not over \$139,999	5.0%
T21	\$140,000 but not over \$149,999	2.5%
T22	\$150,000 and over	0.0%

(xxiii) The amount of lost wages and medical, travel and housing expenses, not to exceed ten thousand dollars in the aggregate, incurred by a taxpayer during the taxable year in connection with the donation to another person of an organ for organ transplantation occurring on or after January 1, 2017;

(xxiv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, the amount of any financial assistance received from the Crumbling Foundations Assistance Fund or paid to or on behalf of the owner of a residential building pursuant to sections 8-442 and 8-443;

(xxv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, the amount calculated pursuant to subsection (b) of section 12-704g for income received by a general partner of a venture capital fund, as defined in 17 CFR 275.203(l)-1, as amended from time to time;

(xxvi) To the extent any portion of a deduction under Section 179 of

the Internal Revenue Code was added to federal adjusted gross income pursuant to subparagraph (A)(xiv) of this subdivision in computing Connecticut adjusted gross income, twenty-five per cent of such disallowed portion of the deduction in each of the four succeeding taxable years;

(xxvii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than seventy-five thousand dollars, or for a husband and wife who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2023, twenty-five per cent of any distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth individual retirement account;

(xxviii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, for a person who files a return under the federal income tax as an unmarried individual whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, or as a married individual filing separately whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, or as a head of household whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred thousand dollars, (I) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2024, fifty per cent of any distribution from an individual retirement account, (II) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2025, seventy-five per cent of any distribution from an individual retirement account, and (III) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2026, and each taxable year thereafter, any distribution from an individual retirement account other

than a Roth individual retirement account. The subtraction under this clause shall be made in accordance with the following schedule:

T23	Federal Adjusted Gross Income	Deduction
T24	Less than \$75,000	100.0%
T25	\$75,000 but not over \$77,499	85.0%
T26	\$77,500 but not over \$79,999	70.0%
T27	\$80,000 but not over \$82,499	55.0%
T28	\$82,500 but not over \$84,999	40.0%
T29	\$85,000 but not over \$87,499	25.0%
T30	\$87,500 but not over \$89,999	10.0%
T31	\$90,000 but not over \$94,999	5.0%
T32	\$95,000 but not over \$99,999	2.5%
T33	\$100,000 and over	0.0%

(xxix) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, for married individuals who file a return under the federal income tax as married individuals filing jointly whose federal adjusted gross income for such taxable year is less than one hundred fifty thousand dollars, (I) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2024, fifty per cent of any distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth individual retirement account, (II) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2025, seventy-five per cent of any distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth individual retirement account, and (III) for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2026, and each taxable year thereafter, any distribution from an individual retirement account other than a Roth individual retirement account. The subtraction under this clause shall be made in accordance with the following schedule:

T34	Federal Adjusted Gross Income	Deduction	
T35	Less than \$100,000	100.0%	
T36	\$100,000 but not over \$104,999	85.0%	
T37	\$105,000 but not over \$109,999	70.0%	

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38	\$110,000 but not over \$114,999	55.0%
39	\$115,000 but not over \$119,999	40.0%
40	\$120,000 but not over \$124,999	25.0%
1	\$125,000 but not over \$129,999	10.0%
2	\$130,000 but not over \$139,999	5.0%
	\$140,000 but not over \$149,999	2.5%
	\$150,000 and over	0.0%

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(xxx) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, for the taxable year commencing January 1, 2022, the amount or amounts paid or otherwise credited to any eligible resident of this state under (I) the 2020 Earned Income Tax Credit enhancement program from funding allocated to the state through the Coronavirus Relief Fund established under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act, P.L. 116-136, and (II) the 2021 Earned Income Tax Credit enhancement program from funding allocated to the state pursuant to Section 9901 of Subtitle M of Title IX of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, P.L. 117-2;

(xxxi) For the taxable year commencing January 1, 2023, and each taxable year thereafter, for a taxpayer licensed under the provisions of chapter 420f or 420h, the amount of ordinary and necessary expenses that would be eligible to be claimed as a deduction for federal income tax purposes under Section 162(a) of the Internal Revenue Code but that are disallowed under Section 280E of the Internal Revenue Code because marijuana is a controlled substance under the federal Controlled Substance Act;

(xxxii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, for the taxable year commencing on or after January 1, 2025, and each taxable year thereafter, any common stock received by the taxpayer during the taxable year under a share plan, as defined in section 12-217ss;

(xxxiii) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, the amount of any student loan reimbursement

payment received by a taxpayer pursuant to section 10a-19m;

389 (xxxiv) Contributions to an ABLE account established pursuant to 390 sections 3-39k to 3-39q, inclusive, not to exceed five thousand dollars for 391 each individual taxpayer or ten thousand dollars for taxpayers filing a 392 joint return; [and]

- (xxxv) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal income tax purposes, the amount of any payment received pursuant to subsection (c) of section 3-122a; and
- 396 (xxxvi) To the extent properly includable in gross income for federal 397 income tax purposes, the amount of any payment received pursuant to 398 subsection (c) of section 1 of this act.
- Sec. 3. Subsection (a) of section 5-259 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,* 2025):
 - (a) The Comptroller, with the approval of the Attorney General and of the Insurance Commissioner, shall arrange and procure a group hospitalization and medical and surgical insurance plan or plans for (1) state employees, (2) members of the General Assembly who elect coverage under such plan or plans, (3) participants in an alternate retirement program who meet the service requirements of section 5-162 or subsection (a) of section 5-166, (4) anyone receiving benefits under section 5-144 or from any state-sponsored retirement system, except the teachers' retirement system and the municipal employees retirement system, (5) judges of probate and Probate Court employees, (6) the surviving spouse, and any dependent children of a state police officer, a member of an organized local police department, a firefighter or a constable who performs criminal law enforcement duties who dies before, on or after June 26, 2003, as the result of injuries received while acting within the scope of such officer's or firefighter's or constable's employment and not as the result of illness or natural causes, and whose surviving spouse and dependent children are not otherwise eligible for a group hospitalization and medical and surgical insurance plan.

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Coverage for a dependent child pursuant to this subdivision shall terminate no earlier than the end of the calendar year during whichever of the following occurs first, the date on which the child: Becomes covered under a group health plan through the dependent's own employment; or attains the age of twenty-six, (7) employees of the Capital Region Development Authority established by section 32-601, [and] (8) the surviving spouse and dependent children of any employee of a municipality who dies on or after October 1, 2000, as the result of injuries received while acting within the scope of such employee's employment and not as the result of illness or natural causes, and whose surviving spouse and dependent children are not otherwise eligible for a group hospitalization and medical and surgical insurance plan. For purposes of this subdivision, "employee" means any regular employee or elective officer receiving pay from a municipality, "municipality" means any town, city, borough, school district, taxing district, fire district, district department of health, probate district, housing authority, regional workforce development board established under section 31-3k, flood commission or authority established by special act or regional council of governments, and (9) the surviving spouse and dependent children of any correction officer or investigator who is killed in the line of duty on or after July 1, 2025, and whose surviving spouse and dependent children are not otherwise eligible for a group hospitalization and medical and surgical insurance plan. For purposes of this subdivision, "correction officer", "investigator" and "killed in the line of duty" have the same meanings as provided in section 1 of this act. For purposes of subdivision (6) of this subsection, "firefighter" means any person who is regularly employed and paid by any municipality for the purpose of performing firefighting duties for a municipality on average of not less than thirty-five hours per week. The minimum benefits to be provided by such plan or plans shall be substantially equal in value to the benefits that each such employee or member of the General Assembly could secure in such plan or plans on an individual basis on the preceding first day of July. The state shall pay for each such employee and each member of the General Assembly covered by such plan or plans the portion of the premium charged for such member's or

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employee's individual coverage and seventy per cent of the additional cost of the form of coverage and such amount shall be credited to the total premiums owed by such employee or member of the General Assembly for the form of such member's or employee's coverage under such plan or plans. On and after January 1, 1989, the state shall pay for anyone receiving benefits from any such state-sponsored retirement system one hundred per cent of the portion of the premium charged for such member's or employee's individual coverage and one hundred per cent of any additional cost for the form of coverage. The balance of any premiums payable by an individual employee or by a member of the General Assembly for the form of coverage shall be deducted from the payroll by the State Comptroller. The total premiums payable shall be remitted by the Comptroller to the insurance company or companies or nonprofit organization or organizations providing the coverage. The amount of the state's contribution per employee for a health maintenance organization option shall be equal, in terms of dollars and cents, to the largest amount of the contribution per employee paid for any other option that is available to all eligible state employees included in the health benefits plan, but shall not be required to exceed the amount of the health maintenance organization premium.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:			
sections.			
Section 1	July 1, 2025	New section	
Sec. 2	July 1, 2025, and	12-701(a)(20)(B)	
	applicable to taxable years		
	commencing on or after		
	January 1, 2025		
Sec. 3	July 1, 2025	5-259(a)	

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 1(d), "July 1, 2025" was changed to "July 1, 2026" for accuracy.

JUD Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO

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The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Revenue Serv., Dept.	GF - Potential	Minimal	Minimal
	Revenue Loss		
State Comptroller - Fringe	GF - Cost	See Below	See Below
Benefits			

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill establishes a non-lapsing "Fallen Officer and Investigator Fund" to offer certain survivor benefits to family members or beneficiaries of correction officers, or certain investigators killed in the line of duty and results in the costs described below.

Benefit payments, which total \$100,000 for each qualifying beneficiary, are exempt from the personal income tax under the bill. Thus, each qualifying beneficiary would result in a General Fund revenue loss of approximately \$4,000. The one-time lump sum death benefit will be paid out of the fund and does not result in a fiscal impact to the state.

Group hospitalization and medical and surgical insurance plan coverage for surviving family, results in a cost to the State Comptroller – Fringe Benefits of less than \$40,000 annually for the full cost of medical premiums for qualifying beneficiaries to the extent they elect coverage.

The bill additionally requires the Comptroller to submit an annual report of certain financial information regarding the fund, and adopt

implementing regulations, neither of which result in a fiscal impact and can be completed within existing resources.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to instances where covered officers or investigators are killed in the line of duty.

OLR Bill Analysis sSB 1443

AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROVISION OF SURVIVOR'S BENEFITS AND HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE TO FAMILY MEMBERS OF CORRECTION OFFICERS, COURT SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION INVESTIGATORS, CRIMINAL JUSTICE DIVISION INVESTIGATORS AND OFFICE OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC DEFENDER INVESTIGATORS KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY.

SUMMARY

This bill establishes the "Fallen Officer and Investigator Fund" to, within available appropriations, give a lump sum death benefit totaling \$100,000 to a surviving family member or beneficiary of a Department of Correction-employed corrections officer or certain investigators killed in the line of duty or who sustained injuries that were the direct and proximate cause of their death. The investigators to whom the bill applies are those employed by the Judicial Department's Court Support Services Division, the Division of Criminal Justice, or the Office of the Chief Public Defender. (The bill's provisions on the fund are substantially similar to those in existing law for the "Fallen Officer Fund," which applies to police officers killed in the line of duty (CGS § 3-122a; see BACKGROUND).)

Under the bill, this payment is not taxable for state income tax purposes and must not be reduced or offset due to other benefits that may be awarded (e.g., workers' compensation).

Lastly, the bill requires the comptroller, with approval from the attorney general and insurance commissioner, to obtain a group hospitalization, medical and surgical insurance plan for surviving spouses and dependent children of any correction officer or investigator killed in the line of duty on or after July 1, 2025, if they are not otherwise eligible for insurance.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2025, and the tax deduction is applicable to tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2025.

FALLEN OFFICER AND INVESTIGATOR FUND

The bill establishes the "Fallen Officer and Investigator Fund," which is a non-lapsing fund that contains any money required by law to be deposited into it. The treasurer must hold the money separate and apart from other money, funds, and accounts. Interest from fund investments must be credited to the fund. The comptroller may expend funds as payment to the surviving family.

Under the bill, "surviving family" means a surviving spouse, surviving child (whether dependent or not), or surviving parent of a correction officer or an investigator killed in the line of duty, or most recently listed beneficiary on file with the officer's or investigator's employing state agency.

"Killed in the line of duty" means the death of a correction officer or investigator while performing his or her duties, due to an incident, an accident, or violence that caused their death or caused injuries that were the direct or proximate cause of their death, including any death that is determined to be occupationally related by a workers' compensation insurance carrier, an employer to whom a certificate of self-insurance has been issued, or an administrative law judge for workers' compensation purposes. It does not include the death of an officer or investigator through the officer's or investigator's own wanton or willful act.

Payment

When the comptroller receives notice, in a way he prescribes, from a surviving family member of a correction officer or investigator killed in the line of duty, within available appropriations, he must pay a lump sum death benefit totaling \$100,000 from the fund to the surviving family. The bill limits each surviving family to one lump sum death benefit and payments are made in the order in which he receives notices until the amount in the fund is depleted.

The bill specifies that this payment is in addition to any other benefits the officer's or investigator's surviving family members are eligible for and the payments must not be reduced or offset because of them (e.g., workers' compensation or other survivor benefits).

Legislative Report

Starting by July 1, 2026, the bill requires the comptroller to annually report to the Judiciary Committee a list of all fund expenditures for the prior year, the fund's current balance, and information on additional amounts needed for the fund.

Regulations and Policies and Procedures

The bill requires the comptroller to adopt implementing regulations. This includes application procedures and criteria for awarding grants among surviving family members, with priority given to awards benefiting a dependent child or children (see below) and spouse. The comptroller may implement policies and procedures needed to implement the bill while in the process of adopting these regulations, if he posts a notice of intent to adopt regulations on the eRegulations system within 20 days after implementing them. These policies and procedures are valid until regulations are adopted.

Under the bill, a "dependent child" is an officer's or investigator's child, whether by blood or adoption, who is:

- 1. under age 22 and (a) was dependent on the officer's or investigator's earnings at the time of the death, (b) does not provide more than half of his or her own support, and (c) is not married or legally adopted by another person; or
- 2. any age and physically or mentally incapacitated and dependent on the officer's or investigator's earnings at the time of the death.

BACKGROUND

Related Bill

sSB 1239 (File 425), favorably reported by the Public Safety and Security Committee, expands the use of the existing "Fallen Officer

Fund" for payments to the surviving family of police officers killed in the line of duty to include emergency medical technicians, firefighters, and paramedics similarly killed and correspondingly renames the fund the "Fallen Hero Fund."

COMMITTEE ACTION

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable Yea 41 Nay 0 (04/08/2025)