

OFFICE OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

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sSB-410

AN ACT CONCERNING FIREFIGHTER CANCER.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 27 \$	FY 28 \$
Admin. Serv., Dept.	GF - Cost	280,000	205,000
State Comptroller - Fringe Benefits ¹	GF - Cost	92,000	69,000

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill, which establishes a pilot program to reimburse firefighters receiving cancer screenings, results in an estimated General Fund cost of \$372,000 in FY 27 and at least \$274,000 in FY 28. The bill also provides the surviving family of a firefighter who has died from certain types of cancer a lump sum death benefit and health insurance coverage. The cost of providing these benefits will be paid out of the Firefighters Cancer Relief Account². It is expected that the account's current balance and annual deposits will be sufficient to fund any additional costs resulting from this bill.

Section 1, which provides a lump sum death benefit totaling \$100,000 to a surviving family member or beneficiary for firefighters who have

¹The fringe benefit costs for most state employees are budgeted centrally in accounts administered by the Comptroller. The estimated active employee fringe benefit cost associated with most personnel changes is 41.82% of payroll in FY 27.

² The Firefighters Cancer Relief Account is a separate non-lapsing account within the Department of Administrative Services. The account generally receives funds through state appropriations and investment income. The accounts current balance is \$8,770,081.

died from certain types of cancers, results in a potential cost to the Firefighters Cancer Relief Account dependent on the frequency of qualifying cases.

Sections 2-3, which extend health insurance coverage under the state partnership plan to a surviving family of firefighters who have died from certain types of cancers, results in a net neutral fiscal impact to the state or municipalities facilitating coverage as the payments will be reimbursed by the Firefighters Cancer Relief Account. The cost to the Firefighters Cancer Relief Account is estimated to be \$44,000 per year per surviving family.

Section 5 requires the State Fire Marshal within the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) to create a pilot program, beginning October 1, 2026, and ending January 1, 2028, to reimburse firefighters who undergo cancer screening. This will require DAS to hire two new employees to administer the program resulting in salary and fringe costs of \$312,000 in FY 27 and at least \$234,000 in FY 28. In addition, reimbursements to firefighters taking part in the pilot program may cost up to \$60,000 in FY 27 and up to \$40,000 in FY 28. Reimbursement costs may vary significantly depending upon the types of screening tests covered and the firefighters chosen to participate in the program.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified in sections 2-3 above would continue into the future subject to inflation.