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SENATE BILL 5322

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State of Washington

54th Legislature

1995 Regular Session

By Senators Gaspard, Roach, McDonald, Rinehart, Heavey, Johnson, Franklin, Loveland, West and Winsley

Read first time 01/18/95. Referred to Committee on Ways & Means.

1 AN ACT Relating to a death benefit award for certain law  
2 enforcement officers, fire fighters, and commissioned employees of the  
3 Washington state patrol who die in the line of duty; adding a new  
4 section to chapter 41.04 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 41.26  
5 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 43.43 RCW; and declaring an  
6 emergency.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 41.04 RCW  
9 to read as follows:

10 (1) Effective January 1, 1994, a one hundred fifty thousand dollar  
11 death benefit award is granted for dying in the line of duty to any law  
12 enforcement officer or fire fighter, defined under chapter 41.26 RCW,  
13 or to any appointee of the governor or chief of the Washington state  
14 patrol under RCW 43.43.020.

15 (2) The award under subsection (1) of this section shall be funded  
16 by the legislature as a sundry claim in the omnibus appropriations bill  
17 under RCW 43.88.080.

1 (3) The director of the department of retirement systems shall  
2 adopt rules for implementing the death benefit award. Entitlement to  
3 the death benefit award is retroactive to January 1, 1994.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 41.26 RCW  
5 under the subchapter heading "provisions applicable to plan I and plan  
6 II" to read as follows:

7 A law enforcement officer or fire fighter is entitled to a death  
8 benefit award under section 1 of this act.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 43.43 RCW  
10 to read as follows:

11 An appointee under RCW 43.43.020 is entitled to a death benefit  
12 award under section 1 of this act.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** This act is necessary for the immediate  
14 preservation of the public peace, health, or safety, or support of the  
15 state government and its existing public institutions, and shall take  
16 effect immediately.

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