

CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT

**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2758**

Chapter 234, Laws of 2020

66th Legislature  
2020 Regular Session

OCCUPATIONAL DISEASE--911 EMERGENCY DISPATCH PERSONNEL--POSTTRAUMATIC  
STRESS DISORDER

EFFECTIVE DATE: June 11, 2020

Passed by the House February 18, 2020  
Yeas 97 Nays 0

LAURIE JINKINS

**Speaker of the House of  
Representatives**

Passed by the Senate March 6, 2020  
Yeas 48 Nays 0

CYRUS HABIB

**President of the Senate**

Approved March 31, 2020 10:56 AM

JAY INSLEE

**Governor of the State of Washington**

CERTIFICATE

I, Bernard Dean, Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives of the State of Washington, do hereby certify that the attached is **SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2758** as passed by the House of Representatives and the Senate on the dates hereon set forth.

BERNARD DEAN

**Chief Clerk**

FILED

March 31, 2020

**Secretary of State  
State of Washington**

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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2758**

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Passed Legislature - 2020 Regular Session

**State of Washington                      66th Legislature                      2020 Regular Session**

**By** House Labor & Workplace Standards (originally sponsored by Representatives Corry, Pettigrew, Chandler, Davis, Eslick, McCaslin, Dent, Morgan, Gildon, Lekanoff, and Pollet)

READ FIRST TIME 02/07/20.

1            AN ACT Relating to recognizing posttraumatic stress disorders of  
2 911 emergency dispatch personnel; and amending RCW 51.08.142.

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

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 51.08.142 and 2018 c 264 s 2 are each amended to  
5 read as follows:

6            (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the  
7 department shall adopt a rule pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW that  
8 claims based on mental conditions or mental disabilities caused by  
9 stress do not fall within the definition of occupational disease in  
10 RCW 51.08.140.

11            (2) (a) Except as provided in (b) and (c) of this subsection, the  
12 rule adopted under subsection (1) of this section shall not apply to  
13 occupational disease claims resulting from posttraumatic stress  
14 disorders of firefighters as defined in RCW 41.26.030(~~((+16))~~) (17)  
15 (a), (b), (c), and (h) and firefighters, including supervisors,  
16 employed on a full-time, fully compensated basis as a firefighter of  
17 a private sector employer's fire department that includes over fifty  
18 such firefighters, and law enforcement officers as defined in RCW  
19 41.26.030(~~((+18))~~) (19) (b), (c), and (e), and public safety  
20 telecommunicators who receive calls for assistance and dispatch  
21 emergency services.

1 (b) For firefighters as defined in RCW 41.26.030(~~(16)~~) (17)  
2 (a), (b), (c), and (h) and firefighters, including supervisors,  
3 employed on a full-time, fully compensated basis as a firefighter of  
4 a private sector employer's fire department that includes over fifty  
5 such firefighters, and law enforcement officers as defined in RCW  
6 41.26.030(~~(18)~~) (19) (b), (c), and (e) hired after June 7, 2018,  
7 and public safety telecommunicators hired after the effective date of  
8 this section, (a) of this subsection only applies if the firefighter  
9 or law enforcement officer or public safety telecommunicators, as a  
10 condition of employment, has submitted to a psychological examination  
11 administered by a psychiatrist licensed in the state of Washington  
12 under chapter 18.71 RCW or a psychologist licensed in the state of  
13 Washington under chapter 18.83 RCW that ruled out the presence of  
14 posttraumatic stress disorder from preemployment exposures. If the  
15 employer does not provide the psychological examination, (a) of this  
16 subsection applies.

17 (c) Posttraumatic stress disorder for purposes of this subsection  
18 (2) is not considered an occupational disease if the disorder is  
19 directly attributed to disciplinary action, work evaluation, job  
20 transfer, layoff, demotion, termination, or similar action taken in  
21 good faith by an employer.

22 (d) "Public safety telecommunicators" means individuals who  
23 receive and respond to telephone or other electronic requests for  
24 emergency assistance, such as law enforcement, fire, and medical  
25 services, and dispatch appropriate emergency responders.

Passed by the House February 18, 2020.

Passed by the Senate March 6, 2020.

Approved by the Governor March 31, 2020.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 31, 2020.

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