

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act Relating to Death Benefits for Certain Law Enforcement Officers'

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 25 MRSA §1611, sub-§5, as amended by PL 2005, c. 519, Pt. XXX, §1, is further amended to read:

5. Law enforcement officer or officer. "Law enforcement officer" or "officer" means an active state police officer, municipal police officer, county sheriff, deputy sheriff, game warden, an employee of the Office of the State Fire Marshal who has law enforcement powers pursuant to section 2396, subsection 7, fire marshal, state judicial marshal or state judicial deputy marshal, ~~liquor enforcement officer~~ forest ranger, Baxter State Park ranger, a detective employed by the Office of the Attorney General pursuant to Title 5, section 202, a person employed by the Department of Corrections as an investigative officer as defined in Title 34-A, section 1001, subsection 10-A, a juvenile community corrections officer as described in Title 34-A, section 5602, a probation officer, a security officer appointed by the Commissioner of Public Safety pursuant to Title 25, section 2908, a motor vehicle investigator appointed by the Secretary of State pursuant to Title 29-A, section 152 or marine patrol officer in this State.'

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill but preserves an altered version of that portion of the bill relating to death benefits for certain law enforcement officers.

Under current law, a state benefit of \$50,000 is paid to the family of an eligible law enforcement officer who has died in the line of duty. Funding for the benefit comes from the Maine Budget Stabilization Fund.

This amendment expands the list of eligible law enforcement officers to include forest rangers, Baxter State Park rangers, detectives employed by the Office of the Attorney General, investigative officers employed by the Department of Corrections, juvenile community corrections officers, probation officers, certain security officers appointed by the Commissioner of Public Safety and motor vehicle investigators appointed by the Secretary of State. This amendment also removes an obsolete reference to liquor enforcement officers.

FISCAL NOTE REQUIRED

(See attached)