

SENATE, No. 685

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 220th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2022 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Senator ANTHONY M. BUCCO
District 25 (Morris and Somerset)
Senator FRED H. MADDEN, JR.
District 4 (Camden and Gloucester)

Co-Sponsored by:

Senator Zwicker

SYNOPSIS

Provides accidental death benefit to surviving spouse, surviving child, or surviving parent of a State Police recruit who dies during required pre-service training.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Senate State Government, Wagering, Tourism & Historic Preservation Committee with technical review.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/19/2022)

1 AN ACT concerning the accidental death benefit in the State Police
2 Retirement System and supplementing P.L.1965, c.89 (C.53:5A-
3 1 et seq.).
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:
7

8 1. a. For the purposes of subsection a. of section 14 of
9 P.L.1965, c.89 (C.53:5A-14) and notwithstanding the provisions of
10 section 5 of P.L.1965, c.89 (C.53:5A-5) or any other law, rule, or
11 regulation to the contrary, a death of a State Police recruit during
12 any required pre-service training, or complications therefrom, at the
13 New Jersey State Police Academy shall be deemed to have occurred
14 as the result of an accident met by a member in the actual
15 performance of duty at some definite time and place.

16 b. If a State Police recruit died during pre-service training or
17 complications therefrom, prior to the enactment of P.L. , c. (C)
18 (pending before the Legislature as this bill), a surviving spouse,
19 surviving child, or surviving parent may apply to receive the
20 accidental death benefits as set forth in section 14 of P.L.1965, c.89
21 (C.53:5A-14) and, if approved, the benefits under this section shall
22 be made retroactive to the date of the death of the State Police
23 recruit. The surviving spouse, surviving child, or surviving parent
24 shall have no more than 12 months following the enactment of
25 P.L. , c. (C) (pending before the Legislature as this bill) to file
26 an accident report with the State Police Retirement System and an
27 application for an accidental death benefit pursuant to this section.

28 c. A pension paid in accordance with this section to the
29 surviving spouse shall not be less than \$50,000. If there is no
30 surviving spouse, a final compensation of not less than \$50,000
31 shall be used to calculate the death benefit to the surviving child or
32 surviving parent, as the case may be. If there is no surviving spouse
33 or in case the spouse dies, 70 percent of final compensation shall be
34 payable to the surviving child or surviving children in equal shares.
35 If there is no surviving spouse or child, 25 percent of final
36 compensation shall be payable to one surviving parent or 40 percent
37 of final compensation shall be payable to two surviving parents in
38 equal shares.
39

40 2. This act shall take effect immediately.