

Multiple Agency Fiscal Note Summary

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| Bill Number: 6263 SB | Title: Firefighter death benefits |
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Estimated Cash Receipts

NONE

Estimated Operating Expenditures

| Agency Name | 2023-25 | | | | 2025-27 | | | | 2027-29 | | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|----------|-------------|----------|------------|----------|-------------|----------|------------|----------|-------------|----------|
| | FTEs | GF-State | NGF-Outlook | Total | FTEs | GF-State | NGF-Outlook | Total | FTEs | GF-State | NGF-Outlook | Total |
| Actuarial Fiscal Note - State Actuary | .0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | .0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | .0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total \$ | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| Agency Name | 2023-25 | | | 2025-27 | | | 2027-29 | | |
|---------------------|--|----------|-------|---------|----------|-------|---------|----------|-------|
| | FTEs | GF-State | Total | FTEs | GF-State | Total | FTEs | GF-State | Total |
| Local Gov. Courts | | | | | | | | | |
| Loc School dist-SPI | | | | | | | | | |
| Local Gov. Other | Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion. | | | | | | | | |
| Local Gov. Total | | | | | | | | | |

Estimated Capital Budget Expenditures

| Agency Name | 2023-25 | | | 2025-27 | | | 2027-29 | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|----------|----------|------------|----------|----------|------------|----------|----------|
| | FTEs | Bonds | Total | FTEs | Bonds | Total | FTEs | Bonds | Total |
| Actuarial Fiscal Note - State Actuary | .0 | 0 | 0 | .0 | 0 | 0 | .0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total \$ | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0 |

| Agency Name | 2023-25 | | | 2025-27 | | | 2027-29 | | |
|---------------------|--|----------|-------|---------|----------|-------|---------|----------|-------|
| | FTEs | GF-State | Total | FTEs | GF-State | Total | FTEs | GF-State | Total |
| Local Gov. Courts | | | | | | | | | |
| Loc School dist-SPI | | | | | | | | | |
| Local Gov. Other | Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion. | | | | | | | | |
| Local Gov. Total | | | | | | | | | |

Estimated Capital Budget Breakout

NONE

Prepared by: Marcus Ehrlander, OFM

Phone:
(360) 489-4327

Date Published:
Final 1/29/2024

Individual State Agency Fiscal Note

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|-----------------------------|--|--|
| Bill Number: 6263 SB | Title: Firefighter death benefits | Agency: AFN-Actuarial Fiscal Note - State Actuary |
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Part I: Estimates

No Fiscal Impact

Estimated Cash Receipts to:

NONE

Estimated Operating Expenditures from:

NONE

Estimated Capital Budget Impact:

NONE

The cash receipts and expenditure estimates on this page represent the most likely fiscal impact. Factors impacting the precision of these estimates, and alternate ranges (if appropriate), are explained in Part II.

Check applicable boxes and follow corresponding instructions:

- If fiscal impact is greater than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete entire fiscal note form Parts I-V.
- If fiscal impact is less than \$50,000 per fiscal year in the current biennium or in subsequent biennia, complete this page only (Part I).
- Capital budget impact, complete Part IV.
- Requires new rule making, complete Part V.

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|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Legislative Contact: Amanda Cecil | Phone: 360-786-7460 | Date: 01/20/2024 |
| Agency Preparation: Aaron Gutierrez | Phone: 360-786-6152 | Date: 01/29/2024 |
| Agency Approval: Michael Harbour | Phone: 360-786-6151 | Date: 01/29/2024 |
| OFM Review: Marcus Ehrlander | Phone: (360) 489-4327 | Date: 01/29/2024 |

Part II: Narrative Explanation

II. A - Brief Description Of What The Measure Does That Has Fiscal Impact

Significant provisions of the bill and any related workload or policy assumptions that have revenue or expenditure impact on the responding agency by section number.

This bill impacts one of the pre-LEOFF retirement systems administered by local governments. Specifically, the Municipal Firefighters' Pension Board (as defined under RCW 41.18.010) shall pay upon the death of any active or retired firefighter the sum of \$1,000, to assist in defraying the funeral expenses. Under current law, this amount is set to \$500.

There is no impact to the pension plans administered by the Department of Retirement Systems.

II. B - Cash receipts Impact

Cash receipts impact of the legislation on the responding agency with the cash receipts provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of the revenue sources. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the cash receipts impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

II. C - Expenditures

Agency expenditures necessary to implement this legislation (or savings resulting from this legislation), with the provisions of the legislation that result in the expenditures (or savings) identified by section number. Description of the factual basis of the assumptions and the method by which the expenditure impact is derived. Explanation of how workload assumptions translate into cost estimates. Distinguished between one time and ongoing functions.

Part III: Expenditure Detail

III. A - Operating Budget Expenditures

NONE

III. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

III. C - Operating FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part I and Part IIIA.*

NONE

III. D - Expenditures By Program (optional)

NONE

Part IV: Capital Budget Impact

IV. A - Capital Budget Expenditures

NONE

IV. B - Expenditures by Object Or Purpose

NONE

IV. C - Capital Budget Breakout

Acquisition and construction costs not reflected elsewhere on the fiscal note and description of potential financing methods.

NONE

IV. D - Capital FTE Detail: *FTEs listed by classification and corresponding annual compensation. Totals agree with total FTEs in Part IVB.*

NONE

Part V: New Rule Making Required

Provisions of the bill that require the agency to adopt new administrative rules or repeal/revise existing rules.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FISCAL NOTE

Department of Commerce

Bill Number: 6263 SB

Title: Firefighter death benefits

Part I: Jurisdiction-Location, type or status of political subdivision defines range of fiscal impacts.

Legislation Impacts:

Cities: Approximately 49 cities would experience an indeterminate but likely minimal impact due to increasing Pre-LEOFF firefighting payouts for funeral expenses from \$500 to \$1,000 upon the death of an active or retired Pre-LEOFF firefighter.

Counties:

Special Districts: Same as above but approximately two fire districts.

Specific jurisdictions only:

Variance occurs due to:

Part II: Estimates

No fiscal impacts.

Expenditures represent one-time costs:

Legislation provides local option:

Key variables cannot be estimated with certainty at this time: The number of Pre-LEOFF firefighters in each jurisdiction is currently unknown.

Estimated revenue impacts to:

None

Estimated expenditure impacts to:

Non-zero but indeterminate cost and/or savings. Please see discussion.

Part III: Preparation and Approval

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|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Fiscal Note Analyst: Kate Fernald | Phone: 564-200-3519 | Date: 01/24/2024 |
| Leg. Committee Contact: Amanda Cecil | Phone: 360-786-7460 | Date: 01/20/2024 |
| Agency Approval: Alice Zillah | Phone: 360-725-5035 | Date: 01/24/2024 |
| OFM Review: Marcus Ehrlander | Phone: (360) 489-4327 | Date: 01/29/2024 |

Part IV: Analysis

A. SUMMARY OF BILL

Description of the bill with an emphasis on how it impacts local government.

Sec. 1. would amend RCW 41.18.140 to require cities with Pre-LEOFF (Law Enforcement Officers and Fire Fighters' retirement system) to increase the amount they pay for funeral expenses from \$500 (current payout) to \$1,000 (proposed by the legislation) upon the death of any active or retired firefighter.

B. SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE IMPACTS

Expenditure impacts of the legislation on local governments with the expenditure provisions identified by section number and when appropriate, the detail of expenditures. Delineated between city, county and special district impacts.

The proposed legislation would cause approximately 49 cities and two fire districts to experience indeterminate but likely minimal impacts due to increasing funeral expense payouts from \$500 to \$1,000 upon the death of an active or retired Pre-Law Enforcement Officers and Fire Fighters (LEOFF) firefighter. According to the Association of Washington Cities (AWC), the number of firefighters in each jurisdiction to whom the bill would apply is unknown until additional information is available, but AWC anticipates from the data they do have that the expenditure impact would be minimal.

BACKGROUND:

In 1955, prior to the establishment of the Law Enforcement Officers' and Fire Fighters' (LEOFF) retirement system in 1970, a city, town or fire protection district that had a regularly organized, full-time fire department with paid firefighters could establish a Firefighters' Pension Fund (FFPF), per RCW 41.16.050. Firefighters that qualified for the retirement system from 1955 to 1970 are colloquially referred to as "Pre-LEOFF" firefighters.

Because the LEOFF retirement system was established in 1970, the overwhelming majority of local governments' active and retired firefighters belong to the LEOFF 1 or LEOFF 2 retirement systems. The Department of Retirement Systems (DRS) reported 51 employers at most have Pre-LEOFF firefighters.

CITY IMPACTS:

DRS provided the number of Pre-LEOFF firefighters in cities with the largest populations (as of January 2024). The legislation's cost impacts to these cities is calculated by multiplying each cities' Pre-LEOFF firefighters by \$500 (the total by which the legislation would increase funeral expense payouts).

City of Seattle Fire: 588 firefighters x \$500 = \$294,000

Tacoma Fire: 260 x \$500 = \$130,000

Spokane Fire: 249 x \$500 = \$124,500

Everett Fire: 144 x \$500 = \$72,000

Yakima Fire: 77 x \$500 = \$38,500

Vancouver Fire: 53 x \$500 = \$26,500

Bellingham Fire: 51 x \$500 = \$25,500

Bremerton Fire: 48 x \$500 = \$24,000

Richland Fire: 41 x \$500 = \$20,500

DRS also reported that many cities have just one or two pre-LEOFF firefighters.

AWC noted that because data for the number of Pre-LEOFF firefighters in each city is incomplete at this time, the legislation's expenditure impact is indeterminate but likely minimal.

C. SUMMARY OF REVENUE IMPACTS

Revenue impacts of the legislation on local governments, with the revenue provisions identified by section number, and when appropriate, the detail of revenue sources. Delineated between city, county and special district impacts.

The legislation would not impact local governments' revenue.

SOURCES:

Association of Washington Cities

Department of Retirement Systems