

SENATE BILL REPORT

SB 6263

As Reported by Senate Committee On:
Ways & Means, February 9, 2016

Title: An act relating to benefits for certain retirement system members who die or become disabled in the course of providing emergency management services.

Brief Description: Providing benefits for certain retirement system members who die or become disabled in the course of providing emergency management services.

Sponsors: Senators Warnick, Ranker, Rivers, Hobbs, Darneille, Lias and Conway; by request of LEOFF Plan 2 Retirement Board.

Brief History:

Committee Activity: Ways & Means: 2/08/16, 2/09/16 [DP].

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS

Majority Report: Do pass.

Signed by Senators Hill, Chair; Braun, Vice Chair; Dammeier, Vice Chair; Honeyford, Vice Chair, Capital Budget Chair; Hargrove, Ranking Member; Keiser, Assistant Ranking Member on the Capital Budget; Ranker, Ranking Minority Member, Operating; Bailey, Becker, Billig, Brown, Conway, Darneille, Hasegawa, Hewitt, Nelson, O'Ban, Padden, Parlette, Pedersen, Rolfes, Schoesler and Warnick.

Staff: Steve Jones (786-7440)

Background: Generally, a member of a state retirement system receives a reduced death and disability benefit if the death or disability is a result of activity outside the member's public employment. This is known as a non-duty death or disability.

Members of state retirement systems who die or become disabled while serving in the military reserves or National Guard during a period of war receive an unreduced death or disability benefit, and may apply for interruptive military service credit for the period of their military service.

Summary of Bill: Members of Plan 2 of the Law Enforcement Officers and Fire Fighters Retirement System (LEOFF) receive an unreduced retirement benefit if the member dies or becomes disabled as a result of federal service in response to natural disasters or other federal

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emergencies, and may apply for service credit for the period of their federal service. This eligibility is retroactive to March 22, 2014.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Committee/Commission/Task Force Created: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Staff Summary of Public Testimony: PRO: This legislation has been endorsed and recommended by the LEOFF Plan 2 Board.

Persons Testifying: PRO: Steve Nelson, LEOFF Plan 2 Board.

Persons Signed In To Testify But Not Testifying: No one.