

**LINE-OF-DUTY DEATH BENEFIT**

2003 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Sponsor: Ron Bigelow**

**This act modifies the Utah State Retirement and Insurance Benefit Act by allowing the Public Employees' Benefit and Insurance Program to provide employee line-of-duty death benefit coverage as part of the group life insurance program instead of purchasing the coverage. This act provides an immediate effective date.**

This act affects sections of Utah Code Annotated 1953 as follows:

AMENDS:

**49-20-406**, as renumbered and amended by Chapter 250, Laws of Utah 2002

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

Section 1. Section **49-20-406** is amended to read:

**49-20-406. Insurance benefits for employees' beneficiaries.**

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Children" includes stepchildren and legally adopted children.

(b) "Line-of-duty death" means a death resulting from external force or violence occasioned by an act of duty as an employee.

(2) The beneficiary of a covered individual who is employed by the state and who [~~dies in the line of duty~~] has a line-of-duty death shall receive:

(a) the proceeds of a \$50,000 group term life insurance policy [~~in the amount of \$50,000 to be purchased by the program and~~] paid for by the state and administered and provided as part of the group life insurance program under this chapter; and

(b) group health coverage paid for by the state that covers the covered individual's:

(i) surviving spouse until remarriage or becoming eligible for Medicare, whichever comes first; and

(ii) unmarried children up to the age of 26.

(3) Any covered employer may provide the benefit under Subsection (2).

(4) The benefit provided under Subsection (2)(a) is subject to the same terms and

conditions as the group life insurance program provided under this chapter.

Section 2. **Effective date.**

If approved by two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, this act takes effect upon approval by the governor, or the day following the constitutional time limit of Utah Constitution Article VII, Section 8, without the governor's signature, or in the case of a veto, the date of veto override.