Fiscal Estimate - 2021 Session

Original Updated	Corrected Supplem	nental				
LRB Number 21-4295/1	Introduction Number SB-681					
Description changing the conditions of liability for worker's compensation benefits for emergency medical services practitioners, emergency medical responders, volunteer fire fighters, correctional officers, emergency dispatchers, coroners and coroner staff, and medical examiners and medical examiner staff						
Fiscal Effect						
Appropriations Reve	ease Existing absorb within agency's bu					
Local: No Local Government Costs Indeterminate 1. Increase Costs Permissive Mandatory 2. Decrease Costs Permissive Mandatory Permissive Mandatory Permissive Mandatory Permissive Mandatory Permissive Mandatory Permissive Mandatory Districts School Districts Districts						
Fund Sources Affected Ch. 20 Appropriation						
GPR FED PRO PRS SEG SEGS 20.445(1)(ra)						
Agency/Prepared By	Authorized Signature	Date				
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Fiscal Estimate Narratives DWD 3/9/2022

LRB Number	21-4295/1	Introduction Number	SB-681	Estimate Type	Original	
Description						
changing the conditions of liability for worker's compensation benefits for emergency medical services						
practitioners, emergency medical responders, volunteer fire fighters, correctional officers, emergency						
dispatchers, coroners and coroner staff, and medical examiners and medical examiner staff						

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

This bill proposes to add the following job categories: paid (not volunteer) emergency medical responders and paid emergency medical services practitioners; to the job categories of law enforcement officer and fire fighter that under current law, and under certain conditions, may bring a claim for worker's compensation benefits for a work-related diagnosis of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD). Per current law, the above job categories would be restricted to claiming compensation for a PTSD diagnosis to three times in a lifetime.

This bill increases the potential number of employees that may bring a claim for worker's compensation benefits related to PTSD, potentially increasing the annual number of worker's compensation claims and hearings. An increase in claims and hearings would have a benefits and operational fiscal impact to the department and would have a fiscal impact to governmental entities, such as municipalities and other state agencies, that provide worker's compensation coverage to individuals in the proposed expanded job categories.

However, the Department is unable to reliably estimate the number of increased claims and hearings due to this expanded coverage; therefore, the fiscal impact of SB 681 to the Department and local government units is indeterminate.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications