

BILL SUMMARY
2nd Session of the 59th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB1457
Version:	CS
Request Number:	10870
Author:	Rep. Kannady
Date:	4/5/2024
Impact:	\$0

Research Analysis

The committee substitute for SB 1457 qualifies mental injury or illness sustained by a first responder as a compensable workplace injury and provides compensation guidelines. If a physician deems a first responder temporarily unable to work, they will receive 70 percent of their average weekly wage up to the state average wage or the greater of the weekly benefit provided for in a collective bargaining agreement or the employer's policy. The employer may also compensate the first responder with a temporary pension benefit. If a first responder is unable to return to work after reaching maximum medical improvement, they may be given permanent disability benefits of up to \$50,000. If a first responder is deemed to have post-traumatic stress disorder, the employer will provide necessary treatment for up to one year but will not be responsible for prescription medication expenses exceeding \$10,000. Payments for volunteer firefighters will be made according to the Volunteer Firefighter Group Insurance Pool.

Prepared By: Autumn Mathews

Fiscal Analysis

This measure modifies provisions related to the workplace injury compensation guidelines. In its current form, SB1457 is not anticipated to have an impact on state budget or appropriations.

Prepared By: Robert Flipping IV, House Fiscal Staff

Other Considerations

None.