

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY  
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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6973**

**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1265

**NOTE PREPARED:** Jan 4, 2003

**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Special Death Benefit for Special Deputies.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Mahern

**BILL STATUS:** As Introduced

**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**    **GENERAL**  
                          **X DEDICATED**  
                          **FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State & Local

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill extends the special death benefit of \$150,000 for a public safety officer who dies in the line of duty to a special deputy who is employed by a political subdivision.

**Effective Date:** July 1, 2003.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** Adding a new group of potential recipient beneficiaries of the Special Death Benefit Fund may reduce the number of years in which the Special Death Benefit Fund is available for distribution. Currently, there are approximately 9,010 covered recipients of the Special Death Benefit Fund. The average number of deaths for which benefits are paid is 3.8 per year. Specific data on the number of special deputies who meet the definition as described in this proposal are not known.

For example, adding 100 special deputies would increase the number of individuals eligible by 1.10%.

*Special Death Benefit Fund:* IC 5-10-10-4 established the Special Death Benefit Fund. This fund was initially supported with a \$5 bail bond fee. This fee expired December 31, 1998. As of June 30, 2002, the balance in the Special Death Benefit Fund amounted to \$2,309,000. The payment for each line-of-duty death is \$150,000. The following table shows the annual payout from the fund and the number of deaths each year since FY 1998.

**Special Death Benefit Fund Under IC 5-10-10-4.**

Fiscal Year Ending	Amount Paid	Number of Line- of-Duty Deaths
6/30/02	\$750,000	5
6/30/01	\$450,000	3
6/30/00	\$900,000	6
6/30/99	\$300,000	2
6/30/98	<u>\$450,000</u>	<u>3</u>
TOTAL	\$2,850,000	19
Average/Year	\$570,000	3.8

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** Public Employees' Retirement Fund as administrators of the Special Death Benefit Fund.

**Local Agencies Affected:**

**Information Sources:** Doug Mills, Controller of the Public Employees' Retirement Fund, 234-2075; data from various entities affected.

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