

Kentucky Justice and Public Safety Cabinet records 28 peace officer line-of-duty deaths in the past 5 years. The death benefits payable for these deaths are funded by state appropriations. It is not known how many of those officers left beneficiaries who would have qualified for the benefits authorized by HB 164 GA.

HB 164 GA would have a negligible, if any, fiscal impact on local governments. Line of duty deaths benefits for peace officers are funded by the state, and not from contributions by local government employers. Other line of duty deaths are treated as retirement by the Kentucky Public Pension Authority and funded by whichever retirement system – KERS or CERS, the deceased member worked for at time of death. While an increase in pay-outs can mean an increase in retirement contributions from participating local governments, line-of-duty deaths are infrequent enough to have no impact on required contributions from local government employers.

Data Source(s): Kentucky League of Cities; LRC staff; Justice and Public Safety Cabinet

Preparer: Mary Stephens (BW) **Reviewer:** KHC **Date:** 2/21/24