

15.460 to extend eligibility for the same KLEFPF distributions to local governments that have a dispatch center and employ at least one qualified law enforcement telecommunicator. “Law enforcement telecommunicator” is defined at HB 359 **Section 1** as a Criminal or Non-Criminal Justice Information System telecommunicator as defined in KRS 15.530.

A local government would receive KLEFPF money in the amount of \$4,000 as a salary supplement for each qualified law enforcement telecommunicator it employs. The local government would also receive an amount equal to the employer’s required retirement plan contribution attributable to the telecommunicator’s KLEFPF salary supplement, and would receive an administrative expense reimbursement of 7.65% of the total annual supplement received from the KLEFPF greater than \$3,100 for each qualified law enforcement telecommunicator.

Section 6 of the bill would extend the right to 48 hours leave for employees involved directly in a critical incident to law enforcement telecommunicators involved in a dispatch call involving serious injury or death. The bill would amend related statutes to conform.

The provisions of HB 359 are not mandatory and impose no additional requirements on local governments. Local governments may choose whether to hire law enforcement telecommunicators and to receive a KLEFPF salary supplement for them and an administrative supplement.

Hiring telecommunicators and increasing the KLEFPF officer salary supplement from \$3,000 to \$4,000 could have a negative fiscal impact on local government-funded police departments. Salary supplements from the Kentucky Law Enforcement Program Fund (KLEFPF) are funded from casualty insurance paid by the insurance premium tax. The addition of telecommunicators would increase city payrolls due to the additional payments. This impact on payrolls could result in an increase in the amount of the premiums paid by cities. This is because as payrolls increase workers’ compensation premiums will increase. Any impact on payroll would result in an increase in indemnity payments which would be a negative fiscal impact on Kentucky cities.

Data Source(s): Kentucky Justice and Public Safety Cabinet; KLC; LRC staff

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