

House Study Bill 266 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
STATE GOVERNMENT BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON BLOOMINGDALE)

A BILL FOR

- 1 An Act concerning retirement and employment benefits associated
- 2 with cancer, and making appropriations.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. **70A.42 Cancer screening.**

2 1. Beginning July 1, 2025, and for each plan year thereafter,
3 a public employer shall provide as occupational coverage to
4 a fire fighter, police officer, or emergency medical services
5 provider, who is employed as a full-time paid employee and
6 enrolled in the employer's health insurance program, health care
7 benefits that include a cancer screening examination conducted
8 by a physician not more than three years after the start of
9 the person's employment as a fire fighter, police officer,
10 or emergency medical services provider and every three years
11 thereafter during the course of the person's employment.

12 2. A political subdivision of the state shall be eligible
13 for reimbursement from the state for the cost of providing
14 the benefits required by subsection 1. However, the amount
15 reimbursed to the political subdivision for a cancer screening
16 examination shall not exceed one thousand two hundred fifty
17 dollars per three-year period per eligible employee. A political
18 subdivision shall maintain adequate records to facilitate the
19 reimbursement.

20 3. A fire fighter, police officer, or emergency medical
21 services provider employed as a full-time paid employee of
22 a public employer shall not be required to pay a copayment,
23 deductible, coinsurance, or out-of-pocket expense for an
24 examination under this section.

25 4. For purposes of this section, "*public employer*" means the
26 state or a political subdivision of the state that employs a fire
27 fighter, police officer, or emergency medical services provider.

28 Sec. 2. Section 97A.1, subsection 6, Code 2025, is amended
29 by striking the subsection and inserting in lieu thereof the
30 following:

31 6. "*Cancer*" means a group of diseases involving abnormal cell
32 growth with the potential to invade or spread to other parts of
33 the body.

34 Sec. 3. Section 411.1, subsection 6, Code 2025, is amended
35 by striking the subsection and inserting in lieu thereof the

1 following:

2 6. "Cancer" means a group of diseases involving abnormal cell
3 growth with the potential to invade or spread to other parts of
4 the body.

5 Sec. 4. DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT — CANCER SCREENING
6 APPROPRIATION. There is appropriated from the general fund of
7 the state to the department of management for the fiscal year
8 beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026, the following
9 amount, or so much thereof as is necessary, to be used for the
10 purposes designated:

11 To reimburse political subdivisions of the state for the costs
12 of cancer screening examinations pursuant to section 70A.42, as
13 enacted by this Act:

14 \$ 1,000,000

15 Sec. 5. IMPLEMENTATION OF ACT. Section 25B.2, subsection 3,
16 shall not apply to this Act.

17 EXPLANATION

18 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
19 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

20 This bill requires public employers to provide health care
21 benefits that include cancer screening examinations to full-time
22 fire fighters, police officers, and emergency medical services
23 providers within the first three years of a person's employment
24 and every three years thereafter. The bill allows a political
25 subdivision to be reimbursed by the state for the costs of
26 providing the examinations, up to \$1,250 per three-year period
27 per eligible employee. An eligible employee cannot be charged
28 for receiving a cancer screening examination under the bill.
29 The bill appropriates \$1 million from the general fund for
30 FY 2025-2026 to the department of management for reimbursing
31 political subdivisions for the cost of providing cancer screening
32 examinations.

33 For benefits relating to members of the public safety peace
34 officers' retirement, accident, and disability system (PORS),
35 and the municipal fire and police retirement system (411

1 system), the bill expands the definition of "cancer" by striking
2 references to specific cancers and inserting a more generalized
3 description. By expanding the definition of "cancer" to include
4 more cancer diagnoses, the bill likewise expands the availability
5 of accidental disability and death benefits to members of PORS
6 or the 411 system who have a cancer diagnosis. By operation of
7 law, the bill also expands the definition of "cancer" as used
8 in Code section 97B.50A for purposes of in-service disability
9 retirement allowance for special service members under the Iowa
10 public employees' retirement system.

11 The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code
12 section 25B.3. The bill makes inapplicable Code section 25B.2,
13 subsection 3, which would relieve a political subdivision from
14 complying with a state mandate if funding for the cost of the
15 state mandate is not provided or specified. Therefore, political
16 subdivisions are required to comply with any state mandate
17 included in the bill.