

Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Office of Research and Drafting

Legislative Budget Office

Synopsis of Senate Committee Amendments

(This synopsis does not address amendments that may have been adopted on the Senate Floor.)

H.B. 308 of the 133rd General Assembly

Senate General Government and Agency Review

Paul Luzzi, Attorney

Removes the House-passed provisions, which proposed to make a peace officer, firefighter, or emergency medical worker diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) eligible to receive compensation and benefits under Ohio's Workers' Compensation Law, regardless of whether the person suffered an accompanying physical injury and prohibit a claimant from receiving a state retirement system disability benefit or retirement and those compensation and benefits simultaneously, and does all of the following:

- Creates the State Post-Traumatic Stress Fund in the state treasury and designates the Director of Budget and Management as the fund's trustee.
- Specifies the fund is to be used to pay lost wage compensation, medical benefits, and administrative costs associated with public safety officers who are diagnosed with PTSD without an accompanying physical injury received in the course of, and arising out of, their employment.
- Prohibits an employer from discharging, demoting, reassigning, or taking any other punitive action against a public safety officer because the officer files a claim or institutes, pursues, or testifies in any proceedings related to compensation or benefits paid from the fund.
- Requires the Board of Trustees of the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund, in consultation with specified entities, to have prepared an actuarial valuation and report that answers specific questions about funding and administrative requirements associated with paying claims from the fund.

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