

HB 2041 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Knopp

Senate Committee On Workforce

Action Date: 03/14/19

Action: Do pass.

Vote: 5-0-0-0

Yeas: 5 - Golden, Hansell, Knopp, Monnes Anderson, Taylor

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Ellen Osoinach, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 3/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Adds parole and probation officers employed by Department of Corrections (DOC) to definition of police officer for purpose of life insurance benefits.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Limited application to life insurance benefits and not Public Employees Retirement System benefits
- Minimal cost to DOC

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

Douglas and Linn counties contract with the Department of Corrections (DOC) to provide parole and probation services. The parole and probation officers employed by DOC in those counties are unionized and represented by the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME). Currently, DOC parole and probation officers are not included in the class of public employees provided life insurance as a benefit of employment.

Upon discovery that DOC parole and probation officers were not statutorily entitled to life insurance benefits, DOC gave AFSCME notice of its intent to stop paying for those benefits. Through the settlement of an unfair labor practice complaint, DOC and AFSCME agreed to jointly pursue legislation making life insurance a benefit of employment. House Bill 2041 adds parole and probation officers employed by DOC to the definition of police officer entitling them to employer-provided life insurance benefits.