

# Public Safety and Security Committee

## JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No.:** SB-341

**Title:** AN ACT ESTABLISHING A FALLEN OFFICER FUND.

**Vote Date:** 3/19/2024

**Vote Action:** Joint Favorable Substitute

**PH Date:** 3/7/2024

**File No.:**

***Disclaimer:** The following JOINT FAVORABLE Report is prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and does not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose.*

### SPONSORS OF BILL:

Rep. Craig C. Fishbein, 90th Dist.

Rep. Gary A. Turco, 27th Dist.

Rep. Patrick S. Boyd, 50th Dist.

Rep. Michael DiGiovancarlo, 74th Dist.

Rep. Ben McGorty, 122nd Dist.

Rep. Michael D Quinn, 82nd Dist.

Sen. Henri Martin, 31st Dist.

Rep. Jaime S. Foster, 57th Dist.

Rep. Greg S. Howard, 43rd Dist.

Rep. Tom Delnicki, 14th Dist.

### REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill will establish the Fallen Officer Fund to provide a one-time lump sum payment of \$100,000 to the surviving family or designated beneficiary of any CT police officer killed in the line of duty, who sustained injuries that directly resulted in the officer's death. This payment is in addition to other benefits for which the officer is eligible and this payment from the fund will not be taxable under state law.

### Substitute Language:

The substitute language adds definition for Killed in the line of Duty, Police officer meaning, nonstate public employees' coverage, employer making payments, and the renaming of sub sections.

### RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

**Sean Scanlon, State Comptroller – Office of the State Comptroller:** Testified in person and via correspondence in support of this bill. He thanked Governor Lamont and members of the legislature for allocating funds to the Comptroller's Operating Expense account to create the Fallen Officer Fund. He urges support of this legislation for the loved ones of our fallen officers.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:**

**CT House, Republicans:** Testified via correspondence in support of this bill. The caucus expressed thanks for the bipartisan legislative support, along with the State Comptroller's input, in passing this in the budget last year, however due to time constraints, the legislature was unable to provide these details in the statute at that time. The caucus also testified that everything should be done to help support our state's police officers and that providing this resource to families pales in comparison to the ultimate sacrifice they made to serve and protect all.

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

None Expressed

**Reported by: Michelle Adams**

**Date: 3/22/2024**