



Colorado
Legislative
Council
Staff

SB17-214

FISCAL NOTE

FISCAL IMPACT: State Local Statutory Public Entity Conditional No Fiscal Impact

Drafting Number: LLS 17-0942 Date: March 17, 2017
Prime Sponsor(s): Sen. Smallwood; Garcia Bill Status: Senate Business
Rep. Exum; Pettersen Fiscal Analyst: Amanda Hayden (303-866-4918)

BILL TOPIC: VOLUNTARY FIREFIGHTER CANCER BENEFITS PROGRAM

Summary of Legislation

This bill allows municipalities, special districts, fire authorities, and county improvement districts that employ one or more firefighters to participate in a voluntary firefighter cancer benefits program. Participation constitutes payment of contributions into a multiple employer health trust designed to pay awards to covered individuals diagnosed with cancer or their surviving family members. The trust must establish award levels between \$100 and \$225,000 based on the category and stage of the cancer. The trust must also make payments to the covered individual for the actual cost, up to \$25,000, for rehabilitative or vocational training employment services and educational training and for cosmetic disfigurement costs, if necessary, up to \$10,000. Any benefits paid by the trust must be offset by any payments made under the Workers' Compensation Act of Colorado. Firefighters, including those who work on a part-time or volunteer basis, must meet certain criteria to be eligible for benefits under the trust.

Local Government Impact

The bill gives local governments the option to join the trust. Should they choose to do so, workers' compensation expenses for these local governments may decrease. The precise impact to local governments will vary across jurisdictions and will depend on a number of factors, including whether or not they join the trust and the number of compensable cancer benefit claims they receive from firefighters.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect upon signature of the Governor, or upon becoming law without his signature.

State and Local Government Contacts

Counties	Fire Chiefs	Information Technology
Labor	Local Affairs	Municipalities
Special Districts		