



# Wyoming Retirement System

Partnering to Build Financial Security for Members and their Families

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## **SF0018: Benefits for spouses of law enforcement members**

**Summary:** This bill will change the duty-related spousal and surviving child death benefit for beneficiaries of the Wyoming Retirement System's (WRS) Warden, Patrol, and DCI Pension Plan and the Law Enforcement Pension Plan.

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**Position:** WRS concurs with this legislation

### **Highlights:**

#### **Warden, Patrol, and DCI Plan**

- Increases the spousal benefit for a pre-retirement duty-related death from 50% to 62.5% of the officer's salary
- Ensures the benefit will be the greater of either the aforementioned increase or 2.5% of the officer's salary multiplied by years of service
- Increases the surviving child benefit from 5% of the officer's salary to 6%

#### **Law Enforcement Plan**

- Ensures the duty-related spousal death benefit will be the greater of either 62.5% of the officer's final salary or 2.5% of the officer's salary multiplied by years of service
  - Increases the surviving child benefit from 5% of the officer's salary to 6%
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**Rationale:** The intent of this bill is to make the pre-retirement death benefits similar between the Warden, Patrol, and DCI Plan and the Law Enforcement Plan. Many law enforcement events are serviced by multiple agencies including the state patrol and local law enforcement. In the event of a duty-related death, it may be desirable to provide similar survivor benefits.

**Implications:** These are low percentage events. Actuaries estimate the present value of the increased benefits in the Warden, Patrol, and DCI Plan will be \$90,674. It is not a large impact on the \$170 million plan.

Actuaries estimate the Law Enforcement Plan changes will be negligible (within actuarial measurement error).