

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

**FILE NUMBER:** H. F. 388

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**Version:** As introduced

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**Subject:** Health Coverage Continuation for Peace Officers and Firefighters

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This bill allows peace officers and firefighters disabled in the line of duty before July 1, 1997, and retired or separated from service due to the injury, to re-enroll in the health plan they had been enrolled in with their employer prior to retirement or separation, or a similar plan now offered by the employer, with a waiver of the pre-existing condition limitation if they apply for coverage within 90 days of the effective date of the bill. Coverage must be provided for the former employee and his or her dependents if they were covered under the employer's group health plan at the time of the injury.

The employer is responsible for paying the employer's contribution for coverage for the former employee and dependents, and the former employee is responsible for the remaining cost of the coverage. Coverage must continue until the former employee turns 65, although dependent coverage may be discontinued after the person is no longer a dependent.

The language is similar to a provision from the 1997 omnibus judicial finance bill which had an effective date of July 1, 1997, and applied to peace officers and firefighters injured in the line of duty from that date forward.