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To: ORSC Members
From: Ali Yogmour, Assistant Research Associate
Date: September 12, 2019
Subject: Am. Sub. H.B. 166 (Death Benefit Fund Administrative Changes)

Senate Bill 296 of the 132nd General Assembly expanded Death Benefit Fund (DBF) payments and extended medical coverage to DBF recipients. DBF benefits are available to survivors of law enforcement officers and firefighters (public safety officers) killed in the line of duty. Amended Substitute House Bill 166 (the biennial budget bill) of the 133rd General Assembly included provisions regarding the amount appropriated each year for the DBF and also included provisions relating to DBF recipients' participation in state health plans. These changes relate to procedural requirements for the DBF and DBF medical coverage rather than altering policy changes made in S.B. 296. This memo is a brief listing of these administrative provisions.

- Specifies an administrative process to be followed by DBF recipients, the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund Board of Trustees, and the Department of Administrative Services when a DBF recipient files for health care benefits.
- Specifies that receiving health care benefits does not make a DBF recipient a state employee, and that DBF recipients who are employees of the state are not eligible for a health care benefit through the DBF.
- Specifies the process for additional amounts to be appropriated for DBF health care coverage if the amounts appropriated in the budget bill are insufficient for FY 2020 and 2021.