

## HR 4018

### Public Safety Officers' Benefits Improvements Act of 2012

**Congress:** 112 (2011–2013, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Crime and Law Enforcement

**Introduced:** Feb 14, 2012

**Current Status:** Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 441.

**Latest Action:** Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 441. (Jul 9, 2012)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/112th-congress/house-bill/4018>

### Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Fitzpatrick, Michael G. [R-PA-8]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** PA • **Chamber:** House

### Cosponsors (18 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Smith, Lamar [R-TX-21]	R · TX		Feb 14, 2012
Rep. Gerlach, Jim [R-PA-6]	R · PA		Feb 17, 2012
Rep. Holt, Rush [D-NJ-12]	D · NJ		Feb 17, 2012
Rep. Welch, Peter [D-VT-At Large]	D · VT		Feb 28, 2012
Rep. Marino, Tom [R-PA-10]	R · PA		Mar 6, 2012
Rep. Poe, Ted [R-TX-2]	R · TX		Mar 7, 2012
Rep. Dent, Charles W. [R-PA-15]	R · PA		Mar 22, 2012
Rep. Michaud, Michael H. [D-ME-2]	D · ME		Mar 22, 2012
Rep. Schwartz, Allyson Y. [D-PA-13]	D · PA		Mar 22, 2012
Rep. Grimm, Michael G. [R-NY-13]	R · NY		Apr 17, 2012
Rep. Latham, Tom [R-IA-4]	R · IA		Apr 17, 2012
Rep. Peterson, Collin C. [D-MN-7]	D · MN		Apr 17, 2012
Rep. Ross, Mike [D-AR-4]	D · AR		Apr 17, 2012
Rep. Andrews, Robert E. [D-NJ-1]	D · NJ		Apr 27, 2012
Rep. Cole, Tom [R-OK-4]	R · OK		May 31, 2012
Rep. Gibson, Christopher P. [R-NY-20]	R · NY		May 31, 2012
Rep. Conyers, John, Jr. [D-MI-14]	D · MI		Jun 5, 2012
Rep. Hinchey, Maurice D. [D-NY-22]	D · NY		Jun 25, 2012

### Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Reported By	Jun 25, 2012

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Crime and Law Enforcement

### Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
112 HR 4310	Related bill	Jan 2, 2013: Became Public Law No: 112-239.
112 S 3254	Related bill	Dec 12, 2012: Pursuant to the provisions of H. Res. 829, papers are returned to the Senate.
112 S 1696	Related bill	Oct 12, 2011: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. (text of measure as introduced: CR S6467-6469)

### Summary (as of Jun 27, 2012)

Public Safety Officers' Benefits Improvements Act of 2012 - Amends the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to revise provisions concerning public safety officer death or disability benefits, including by: (1) modifying the list of recipients of death benefits payable when a public safety officer has died as the direct and proximate result of a personal injury sustained in the line of duty to include as an eligible individual, if there is no other individual meeting existing eligibility requirements, the surviving individual (or individuals, in equal shares) who would qualify as an eligible "child" but for age; (2) providing that disability benefits shall be payable when an officer has become permanently and totally disabled as the direct and proximate result of a personal injury (currently, as the direct result of a catastrophic injury) sustained in the line of duty; (3) eliminating the \$5,000,000 limit on total annual disability benefits paid; (4) providing that death or disability benefits shall not be in addition to payments under the September 11th Victim Compensation Fund of 2001; (5) revising the criteria for death resulting from a heart attack, stroke, or vascular rupture suffered by a public safety officer while on duty; (6) including within the definitions of "member of a rescue squad or ambulance crew" and "public safety officer" an officially recognized or designated employee or volunteer member of a rescue squad or ambulance crew that is a public agency or a nonprofit entity serving the public that is officially authorized or licensed to engage in rescue activity or to provide emergency medical services and that engages in rescue activities or provides emergency medical services as part of an official emergency response system; and (7) making those who have sustained a catastrophic injury in the line of duty eligible for peer support and counseling programs.

Makes funds available for appeals from final determinations (currently, decisions) of the Bureau of Justice Assistance, and for expenses of representation of hearing examiners, with respect to public safety officer's death benefits under specified circumstances. Provides that no appeal shall bring a final determination of the Bureau before any court for review unless notice of appeal is filed within 90 days after the date on which the Bureau serves notice of the final determination. Defines a "hearing examiner" under such Act to include any medical or claims examiner.

Makes this Act applicable to injuries sustained by a member of a rescue squad or ambulance crew on or after June 1, 2009. Makes provisions regarding the presumption of a personal injury sustained in the line of duty for public safety officers applicable to heart attacks, strokes, and vascular ruptures sustained on or after December 15, 2003.

## **Actions Timeline**

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- **Jul 9, 2012:** Read the second time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 441.
- **Jun 29, 2012:** Read the first time. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under Read the First Time.
- **Jun 28, 2012:** Received in the Senate.
- **Jun 27, 2012:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H4079)
- **Jun 27, 2012:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.(text: CR 6/26/2012 H3994-3995)
- **Jun 27, 2012:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote. (text: CR 6/26/2012 H3994-3995)
- **Jun 27, 2012:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Jun 26, 2012:** Mr. Smith (TX) moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended.
- **Jun 26, 2012:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H3984-3997)
- **Jun 26, 2012:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on H.R. 4018.
- **Jun 26, 2012:** At the conclusion of debate, the chair put the question on the motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Johnson (GA) objected to the vote on the grounds that a quorum was not present. Further proceedings on the motion were postponed. The point of no quorum was withdrawn.
- **Jun 25, 2012:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Judiciary. H. Rept. 112-548.
- **Jun 25, 2012:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 392.
- **Jun 6, 2012:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Jun 6, 2012:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.
- **Feb 14, 2012:** Introduced in House
- **Feb 14, 2012:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.