

Second Regular Session of the 123rd General Assembly (2024)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2023 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE ENROLLED ACT No. 1142

AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning public safety.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

SECTION 1. IC 10-19-13.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** CHAPTER TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2024]:

Chapter 13.5. Hoosier First Responder Medal of Honor

Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "Indiana first responder" means an Indiana first responder designated under IC 10-10.5-2-1.

Sec. 2. As used in this chapter, "medal" refers to the Hoosier first responder medal of honor described in section 3 of this chapter.

Sec. 3. (a) The department may determine an Indiana first responder is eligible for the Hoosier first responder medal of honor if the Indiana first responder distinguishes themselves conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of the Indiana first responder's life above and beyond the call of duty while engaged in an act of public service. The department may adopt guidelines to make such a determination.

(b) The department shall procure the medals to be awarded by the governor under section 5 of this chapter.

Sec. 4. (a) An entity employing an Indiana first responder or for which the Indiana first responder volunteers may nominate an Indiana first responder who has been killed or seriously injured in the line of duty by submitting an application to the department, in

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a manner prescribed by the department.

(b) Upon receipt of the nomination, the department may approve the nomination in a manner prescribed by the department.

(c) Upon approval of a nomination by the department, the department shall notify the entity employing the Indiana first responder or for which the Indiana first responder volunteers of the nomination. The entity shall notify a member of the general assembly who represents the district in which the entity is located of the Indiana first responder's nomination. The member of the general assembly shall recommend the Indiana first responder for the medal to the governor.

Sec. 5. The governor may award the medal to the Indiana first responder or the Indiana first responder's next of kin at a public ceremony at a time and place prescribed by the governor.

Sec. 6. If the department determines that an Indiana first responder nominated to the department under section 4 of this chapter does not meet the eligibility requirements to receive the medal, the department may make recommendations to the entity that employs the Indiana first responder or for which the Indiana first responder volunteers of other forms of recognition for the Indiana first responder.



Speaker of the House of Representatives

President of the Senate

President Pro Tempore

Governor of the State of Indiana

Date: _____ Time: _____

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