

HB 2271 -- Health Benefits for Surviving Spouses and Children of
Certain Public Safety Employees

Sponsor: Roorda

This bill requires the employer of a full-time law enforcement officer, correctional or probation and parole officer, or firefighter who suffers a catastrophic injury or is killed in the line of duty on or after August 28, 2008, to pay the entire premium of the health benefit plan for the injured employee and the employee's dependents for a specified period of time after the employee's injury or death. For the employee's children, the premiums are to be paid until the child reaches the age of majority, until the end of the year in which the child turns 25 years of age and continues to be dependent for support, or until the child is no longer a student and no longer dependent for support. If an injured employee dies, the employer is required to pay the premiums for the surviving spouse until remarriage.