

**Virginia Retirement System
2026 General Assembly Session
Fiscal Impact Statement**

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: HB 491

Patron: Guzman

Bill Title: Line of Duty Act; sheriffs and deputy sheriffs

Bill Summary: Provides that a sheriff or deputy sheriff shall be eligible for Line of Duty Act benefits.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No

Items Impacted:

Explanation:

Fiscal Summary: Under existing law, sheriffs and deputy sheriffs are eligible for Line of Duty Act (LODA) benefits, so there will be no fiscal impact.

Fiscal Analysis: The published bill summary indicates that only sheriffs and deputy sheriffs in the City of Richmond are eligible for LODA. Currently, all sheriffs and deputy sheriffs, as well as city sergeants and deputy city sergeants with the City of Richmond, are included in the definition of deceased person in LODA, specifically § 9.1-400(B) of the *Code*.

The bill's relocation of sheriffs and deputy sheriffs from clause (v) to a new clause (xxi) in § 9.1-400 is presumably a clarifying amendment as it does not alter the categories of individuals covered by LODA.

Other: All sheriffs and deputy sheriffs have been covered by the Line of Duty Act (LODA) since its inception in 1972 pursuant to 1972 Va. Acts ch. 670. The city sergeant or deputy city sergeant of Richmond were expressly added as a separate category to the list of individuals covered by LODA by 1976 Va. Acts ch. 772.