

NEWS

From the Office of Rep. Aaron Crossley

District 29

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 6, 2025 CONTACT: Rep. Aaron Crossley 573-751-3623 <u>Aaron.Crossley@House.Mo.Gov</u>

State Rep. Aaron Crossley Secures Passage of Legislation Supporting Families of Fallen First Responders

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – This week, the Missouri General Assembly truly agreed to and finally passed SBs 81 and 71, which includes HB 1584, legislation sponsored by State Representative Aaron Crossley to extend the Line of Duty Compensation Act.

Working in a bipartisan effort with Representatives Tim Taylor (R-Bunceton), Phil Amato (R-St. Charles), and Brad Christ (R-St. Louis County), Rep. Crossley successfully advanced the measure to ensure continued support for the families of Missouri's fallen first responders.

"The passage of this bill is a testament to our unwavering commitment to those who risk everything for our safety," Rep. Crossley, D-Independence, said. "By extending the Line of Duty Compensation Act, we're ensuring that the families of our fallen first responders receive the support and recognition they so rightfully deserve."

"This legislation reflects a unified, bipartisan effort to stand behind our public safety personnel," Crossley continued. "By increasing the compensation and broadening the scope of coverage, we're sending a clear message: Missouri values and supports its first responders."

The Line of Duty Compensation Act provides financial assistance to the surviving spouses and children of public safety officers who die in the line of duty. Under current law, the Act is set to expire six years after June 19, 2019, which would be in June of this year. Crossley's legislation extends the sunset to 12 years after June 30, 2025, ensuring long-term continuation of these vital benefits.

The urgency of this extension was underscored by the tragic loss of Kansas City firefighterparamedic Graham Hoffman, who was fatally stabbed while responding to a medical emergency.

"The tragic loss of Kansas City firefighter-paramedic Graham Hoffman underscores the dangers our first responders face daily," said Crossley. "By extending the Line of Duty Compensation Act, we honor his sacrifice and ensure that heroes like Graham are never forgotten."

The legislation now heads to the governor's desk for signature.

Representative Aaron Crossley, a Democrat, represents part of Jackson County (District 29) in the Missouri House of Representatives. He was elected to his first two-year term in November 2022. For more information, please contact Rep. Crossley at 573-751-3623 or by email at <u>Aaron Crossley@House.Mo.Gov</u>.

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