

HB 918 -- OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES

SPONSOR: Brown

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Crime Prevention and Public Safety by a vote of 16 to 0 with 1 present.

This bill adds peace officers certified pursuant to Chapter 590, RSMo, to those occupations for whom disease of the lungs or respiratory tract, hypotension, hypertension, or disease of the heart or cardiovascular system, including carcinoma, may be recognized as occupational diseases for the purpose of workers' compensation.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Cost on General Revenue Fund of Could Exceed \$100,000 in FY 2005, FY 2006, and FY 2007. Estimated Cost on Other State Funds of Could Exceed \$100,000 in FY 2005, FY 2006, and FY 2007.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that this protection is already given to firefighters. Police are often called upon to rescue people before firefighters arrive and are subject to the same occupational hazards as firefighters. They should have the same protections.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Brown; and Fraternal Order of Police of Missouri.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Richard Smreker, Senior Legislative Analyst