

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action:	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote:	8 - 0 - 0
Yeas:	Cameron, Clem, Conger, Matthews, Sheehan, Smith J., Holvey, Whisnant
Nays:	0
Exc.:	0
Prepared By:	Jan Nordlund, Administrator
Meeting Dates:	3/17, 4/12

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Specifies which county provides workers' compensation coverage to qualified search and rescue volunteers. Clarifies that a qualified search and rescue volunteer can be acknowledged at the scene by the sheriff's designee. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Management-Labor Advisory Committee opinion
- Ambiguity in current statute leaves counties questioning who provides the coverage
- Military personnel who serve in a volunteer capacity

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces the original measure.

BACKGROUND: Under current statute, the county in which the search and rescue volunteer serves is the county that is to provide workers' compensation coverage for the volunteer. This statute codifies legislation passed in 2009 (House Bill 3021).

House Bill 3490-A specifies that the county in which the search and rescue volunteer is registered will provide workers' compensation coverage even if the volunteer serves in another county, as long as that county requested help through the county in which the volunteer is registered. House Bill 3490-A also specifies that if a search and rescue volunteer serves in a county in which he or she is not registered and the request did not come through the county in which he or she is registered, the county in which the volunteer work is performed is the county that must provide the workers' compensation coverage.