



House Finance Committee

House Bill 80 – Opposition to PTSD Provision

Rachel Massoud, Policy Analyst

May 30, 2019

Chairman Oelslager, Vice Chair Scherer, Ranking Member Cera, and members of the House Finance Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony on House Bill 80 (HB 80), the Bureau of Workers' Compensation (BWC) Budget.

CCAO writes in opposition to a provision in HB 80 that would allow peace officers, firefighters, and emergency medical workers to be eligible for workers' compensation benefits once they have been diagnosed with work-related post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) regardless of whether the person suffers an accompanying physical injury.

As currently written, the language in HB 80 does not provide any additional parameters around the coverage, such as time limits for compensation and benefits. We do not have information on cost projections, the estimated increase in claims, or the specific details of the funding mechanism. Without these details, CCAO is unable to determine the fiscal and practical implications this will have on counties.

In the past, the CCAO Board of Directors has opposed similar provisions that have expanded BWC coverage to include PTSD regardless of physical injury. CCAO intends to continue conversations with Chairman Oelslager and BWC regarding our concerns.



County Risk
Sharing Authority

Fax: 614-220-0209
www.corsa.org



Fax: 614-229-4588
www.cebc.org



County Commissioners
Association of Ohio
Service Corporation

Fax: 614-221-6986
www.ccao.org