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1 House BILL NO. 659
2 INTRODUCED BY Figure Tarrington

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT MUNICIPALITIES SHALL CONTINUE TO PAY THE SALABLES OF POLICE OFFICERS INJURED IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES AND TO PROVIDE FOR ASSIGNMENT OF SUCH AN OFFICER TO LIGHT DUTY OR, WITH HIS CONSENT. TO ANOTHER AGENCY."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Continuation of salary of officer injured in performance of duty. (1) A member of a municipal law enforcement agency who is injured in the performance of his duties so as to necessitate medical or other remedial treatment and render him unable to perform his duties shall be paid by the municipality by which he is employed the full amount of his regular salary, less any amount he may receive from workers' compensation, until his disability has ceased.

Section 2. Determination of eligibility for continued salary. (1) The determination of whether an injury was incurred during or resulted from the performance of duty shall be made by the municipality. The injured officer may appeal the decision to the municipal law enforcement board available to him.

(2) The determination of whether the injury resulted

in a disability shall be made by the municipality, with the advice of medical opinion. The injured officer may appeal the decision to the municipal law enforcement board available to him.

Section 3. Feriodic medical examinations — waiver of right to salary. (1) The municipality may appoint a physician to examine the officer from time to time. If the injured officer has recovered and is physically able to perform light duty or his regular duties, the physician shall certify that fact.

11 (2) An injured officer who unreasonably refuses to
12 accept medical treatment or hospital care or to permit
13 medical examination as authorized by subsection (1) waives
14 his right under [section 1] to receive his regular salary
15 during his absence from service.

16 Section 4. Discontinuation of salary when retirement 17 allowance granted. Payment of a regular salary under 18 [section 1] shall be discontinued if the officer is disabled 19 for an undetermined duration and is granted a disability 20 retirement allowance under [Title 11, chapter 18]. If an 21 application for such a retirement allowance is not made by 22 the officer, application therefor may be made by the chief 2.3 executive officer of the municipality by which such officer 24 is employed.

25 Section 5. Assignment to light duty or another agency.

- 1 (1) Whenever, in the opinion of the municipality supported 2 by a physician's opinion, the officer is able to perform 3 specified types of light police duty, payment of his regular salary under [section 1] shall be discontinued if he refuses 5 to perform such light police duty when it is available and 6 offered to him. Such light duty shall be consistent with 7 the officer's status as a law enforcement officer. 8 Performance of such light duty entitles the officer to his 9 regular salary, including increases thereof, and fringe 10 benefits to which he would have been entitled had he been
- 12 (2) With his consent, the officer may be transferred13 to another department or agency within the municipality.

able to perform his regular duties.

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- Section 6. Effect on probationary status. If the injured officer is on probationary status at the time he becomes injured, the balance of his probationary time shall be suspended until he returns to regular duty or is discharged for cause.
  - Section 7. Subrogation. The municipality has a cause of action for reimbursement of sums it has paid to an officer as salary and for medical treatment against any third party against whom the officer has a cause of action for the injury which necessitated the payments by the municipality.

-End-

Approved by Committee on Labor & Employment Relations

1 HOUSE BILL NO. 659

INTRODUCED BY LYNCH. HARRINGTON

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT MUNICIPALITIES OF THE FIRST OR SECOND CLASS SHALL CONTINUE TO PAY THE SALARIES OF POLICE OFFICERS INJURED IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES AND TO PROVIDE FOR ASSIGNMENT OF SUCH AN OFFICER TO LIGHT DUTY OR, WITH HIS CONSENT, TO ANOTHER AGENCY."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Continuation of salary of officer injured in performance of duty. (1) A member of a municipal law enforcement agency OF A FIRST OR SECOND CLASS MUNICIPALITY who is injured in the performance of his duties so as to necessitate medical or other remedial treatment and render him unable to perform his duties shall be paid by the municipality by which he is employed the full amount of his regular salary, less any amount he may receive from workers compensation, until his disability has ceased.

Section 2. Determination of eligibility for continued salary. (1) The determination of whether an injury was incurred during or resulted from the performance of duty shall be made by the municipality. The injured officer may appeal the decision to the municipal law enforcement board

available to him-

(2) The determination of whether the injury resulted in a disability shall be made by the municipality, with the advice of medical opinion. The injured officer may appeal the decision to the municipal law enforcement board available to him.

7 Section 3. Periodic medical examinations -- waiver of 8 right to salary. (1) The municipality may appoint a 9 physician to examine the officer from time to time. If the 10 injured officer has recovered and is physically able to 11 perform light duty or his regular duties, the physician 12 shall certify that fact.

(2) An injured officer who unreasonably refuses to accept medical treatment or hospital care or to permit medical examination as authorized by subsection (1) waives his right under [section 1] to receive his regular salary during his absence from service.

Section 4. Discontinuation of salary when retirement allowance granted. Payment of a regular salary under [section 1] shall be discontinued if the officer is disabled for an undetermined duration and is granted a disability retirement allowance under [Title 11, chapter 18]. If an application for such a retirement allowance is not made by the officer, application therefor may be made by the chief executive officer of the municipality by which such officer

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3 (1) Whenever, in the opinion of the municipality supported
4 by a physician's opinion, the officer is able to perform
5 specified types of light police duty, payment of his regular
6 salary under [section 1] shall be discontinued if he refuses
7 to perform such light police duty when it is available and
8 offered to him. Such light duty shall be consistent with
9 the officer's status as a law enforcement officer.

Section 5. Assignment to light duty or another agency.

(2) With his consent, the officer may be transferred to another department or agency within the municipality.

able to perform his regular duties.

Performance of such light duty entitles the officer to his

regular salary, including increases thereof, and fringe benefits to which he would have been entitled had he been

Section 6. Effect on probationary status. If the injured officer is on probationary status at the time he becomes injured, the balance of his probationary time shall be suspended until he returns to regular duty or is discharged for cause.

Section 7. Subrogation. The municipality has a cause of action for reimbursement of sums it has paid to an officer as salary and for medical treatment against any third party against whom the officer has a cause of action for the injury which necessitated the payments by the

1 municipality.

-End-

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HB 659

1	HOUSE	BILL	NO.	659	

## INTRODUCED BY LYNCH, HARRINGTON

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT
5 MUNICIPALITIES OF THE FIRST OR SECOND CLASS SHALL CONTINUE
6 TO PAY THE SALARIES OF POLICE OFFICERS INJURED IN THE
7 PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES AND TO PROVIDE FOR ASSIGNMENT OF
8 SUCH AN OFFICER TO LIGHT DUTY OR, WITH HIS CONSENT, TO
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2 (2) The determination of whether the injury resulted 3 in a disability shall be made by the municipality, with the 4 advice of medical opinion. The injured officer may appeal 5 the decision to the municipal law enforcement board 6 available to him.

Section 3. Periodic medical examinations — waiver of right to salary. (1) The municipality may appoint a physician to examine the officer from time to time. If the injured officer has recovered and is physically able to perform light duty or his regular duties, the physician shall certify that fact.

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(2) With his consent, the officer may be transferred to another department or agency within the municipality.

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1 municipality.

-End-

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HB 659

## SENATE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

That House Bill No. 659 be amended as follows:

1. Amend page 1, section 1, line 20.
Following: "ceased"
Insert: "or for a period not to exceed one year whichever shall
 first occur"

2. Amend page 3, section 5, lines 10 through 13. Following: line 9

Strike: lines 10 through 13 in their entirety

HB 0659/03

1	HOUSE BILL NO. 659
2	INTRODUCED BY LYNCH, HARRINGTON

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO PROVIDE THAT MUNICIPALITIES OF THE FIRST OR SECOND CLASS SHALL CONTINUE TO PAY THE SALARIES OF POLICE OFFICERS INJURED IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES AND TO PROVIDE FOR ASSIGNMENT OF SUCH AN OFFICER TO LIGHT DUTY OR, WITH HIS CONSENT, TO ANOTHER AGENCY."

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(1) Whenever, in the opinion of the municipality supported by a physician's opinion, the officer is able to perform specified types of light police duty, payment of his regular salary under [section 1] shall be discontinued if he refuses to perform such light police duty when it is available and offered to him. Such light duty shall be consistent with the officer's status as a law enforcement officer. Performance of such light duty-entitles the officer—to—his regular—salaryy—including—increases—thereofy—and-fringe benefits—to—which he—would—have—been—entitled—had—he—been oble—to—perform—his—regular—duties»

(2) With his consent, the officer may be transferred to another department or agency within the municipality.

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- l for the injury which necessitated the payments by the
- 2 municipality.

-End-