

**Dale Long Public Safety Officers' Benefits Improvements Act of 2012**  
**Public Safety Officers' Benefits Program**  
**Bureau of Justice Assistance**  
**U.S. Department of Justice**

**AT-A-GLANCE**

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The centerpiece of the new Dale Long Public Safety Officers' Benefits (PSOB) Act of 2012 fills a gap in the PSOB law to cover certain emergency medical technicians and other first responders serving the public, especially those in rural areas, through private, nonprofit rescue and ambulance companies. Key provisions of the Dale Long Act include:

- Adds a category of eligible public safety officers to include authorized or licensed members of nonprofit rescue squads or ambulance crews serving the public and engaging in rescue activity or the provision of emergency medical services.
- Expands the hierarchy of eligible beneficiaries to include surviving adult children.
- Broadens the coverage of "Hometown Heroes" cases for eligible line-of-duty heart attacks and strokes to include vascular ruptures.
- Requires that an eligible beneficiary be living on the date the determination is made to receive the benefit.
- Establishes a 90-day period for final agency appeals to be filed with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit.
- Eliminates the statutory requirement to reduce the PSOB educational assistance award by the amount of other public educational assistance the student receives.