



UTAH RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

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May 5, 2022

Cassandra Ray
North Tooele County Fire Protection Service District EN 643
179 Country Club
Stansbury Park UT 84074

RE: House Bill 70 (Public Safety Disability Benefits Amendments)

Dear Cassandra,

During the recent session, the Utah legislature amended Utah Code Title 49 to require employers to provide benefit protection coverage for both their Tier 1 Public Safety Service Employees and their Tier 2 Public Safety Service Employees and Firefighter Service Employees.

This allows Public Safety and Firefighter employees who are injured or ill due to external force or violence because of the performance of their employment duties to continue to accrue retirement service credit or for members of Tier 2 defined contribution plan to receive nonelective employer contributions while receiving a monthly disability benefit. This new requirement is effective July 1, 2022.

As required by law, your Public Safety and/or Firefighter employees will need to receive benefit protection coverage by July 1, 2022. To comply with the statute, you may utilize PEHP long-term disability coverage, establish a benefit protection contract by utilizing a long-term disability insurance program with substantially similar benefits to the PEHP LTD Program, or establish a benefit protection contract through workers' compensation indemnity benefits.

A benefit protection contract will ensure that injured Public Safety and/or Firefighter employees who receive long-term disability or workers' compensation benefits will also receive retirement service credit or 401(k) contributions (for those that selected the Tier 2 Defined Contribution plan) while they are receiving disability benefits.

To establish benefit protection contract coverage, please follow the instructions on the enclosed form, and return the form and other requested material to URS by May 16th. If you have any questions, please contact URS Employer Services at (801) 366-7318 or (800) 753-7318.

Sincerely,

URS Employer Services