



General Assembly

January Session, 2001

Raised Bill No. 6544

LCO No. 3110

Referred to Committee on Public Safety

Introduced by:
(PS)

AN ACT CONCERNING TIME OFF FOR FIREFIGHTER TRAINING.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 (NEW) (a) An employee who is an active member of a volunteer fire
2 company, as defined in section 7-314 of the general statutes, and works
3 for an employer employing fifty or more employees, shall be permitted
4 to take temporary leaves of absence, not to exceed a total of fourteen
5 days per calendar year, without loss of pay, vacation time, sick leave or
6 earned overtime accumulation, for the purpose of engaging in
7 firefighter training. The fire chief of the fire company for which the
8 employee is an active volunteer shall certify such firefighter training as
9 necessary.

10 (b) No employer shall (1) discharge, discipline or reduce the wages,
11 vacation time, sick leave or earned overtime accumulation of any
12 employee because such employee is attending firefighter training, or
13 (2) require refusal to participate in firefighter training as a condition of
14 continued employment. The requirements of this section shall not be
15 altered by any collective bargaining agreement. An employee who
16 works for an employer employing fifty or more employees who is
17 discharged, threatened with discharge, demoted, suspended or in any

18 other manner discriminated against in the terms and conditions of
19 employment by the employer because the employee has taken time off
20 to engage in firefighter training as provided in subsection (a) of this
21 act, is entitled to reinstatement and reimbursement for lost wages and
22 work benefits caused by the acts of the employer.

Statement of Purpose:

To increase public safety by providing time to volunteer firefighters for training.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]