



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 818**

January Session, 2005

\* SB00818LAB 042605 \*

**AN ACT CONCERNING VOLUNTEERS PARTICIPATING IN  
HOMELAND SECURITY DRILLS OR RESPONDING TO FIRE OR  
AMBULANCE CALLS.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2005*) (a) For the purposes of  
2 this section, "volunteer organization" means an organization that (1)  
3 provides first responder, rescue or emergency medical transportation  
4 services, or is a volunteer fire company that provides emergency  
5 medical or rescue services, as part of its duties, and (2) relies  
6 exclusively or primarily upon volunteers to provide such services.

7 (b) Each volunteer organization that conducts a homeland security  
8 drill at the request of the Department of Emergency Management and  
9 Homeland Security that exceeds twenty-four consecutive hours in  
10 length shall compensate any volunteer with such organization who is  
11 otherwise employed and participates in such drill at the same rate as  
12 such volunteer is compensated in his or her employment in the public  
13 or private sector.

14 (c) In the event any such volunteer is injured, disabled or dies in the  
15 course of any such drill, such volunteer shall be compensated in  
16 accordance with the provisions of chapter 568 of the general statutes to  
17 the same extent that he or she would have been compensated for such  
18 injury, disability or death occurring in the course of his or her

19 employment in the public or private sector.

20 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2005*) Any employee of an  
 21 employer with fifty or more employees who is an active volunteer  
 22 firefighter or member of a volunteer ambulance service or company (1)  
 23 may, with employer authorization, be permitted to leave work in order  
 24 to respond to fire calls or ambulance calls during such employee's  
 25 regular hours of employment without loss of pay, vacation time, sick  
 26 leave or earned overtime accumulation, or (2) shall be permitted to  
 27 respond to such calls prior to reporting for work without such prior  
 28 employer authorization and without loss of pay, vacation time, sick  
 29 leave or earned overtime accumulation, provided in either case, if  
 30 requested by the employer, such employee submits a written  
 31 statement from (A) the chief of the volunteer fire department, (B) the  
 32 medical director or chief administrator of the volunteer ambulance  
 33 service or company, or (C) the officer or other authorized individual of  
 34 the volunteer fire department or volunteer ambulance service or  
 35 company who was in charge of the scene at such fire or ambulance call  
 36 verifying that such employee responded to a fire or ambulance call and  
 37 specifying the date, time and duration of such response. For purposes  
 38 of this section, "employer" means a person engaged in business who  
 39 has employees, excluding the state and its political subdivisions, and  
 40 "employee" means any person engaged in service to an employer in a  
 41 business of the employer.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2005</i>	New section

**LAB** Joint Favorable Subst.