CONNECTICUT STATE FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

February 19, 2013

Senator Catherine Osten, Co-Chair Labor & Public Employees Committee
Representative Peter Tercyak, Co-Chair Labor & Public Employees Committee
Senator Joe Markley, Ranking Member Labor & Public Employees Committee
Representative Richard Smith, Ranking Member Labor & Public Employees Committee

Members of the Labor & Public Employees Committee,

My name is Ted Schroll, Legislative Representative for the Connecticut State Firefighters Association. Our Association represents more than 26,000 paid and volunteer firefighters in Connecticut. I would like to comment on **Raised House Bill # 823, AN ACT CONCERNING SEVERE MENTAL OR EMOTIONAL IMPAIRMENT AND WORKERS' COMPENSATION COVERAGE.**

THE CONNECTICUT STATE FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS THE PASSAGE OF THIS PROPOSAL.

We believe that there is enough evidence to show that PTSD can be related directly to some of the duties of a firefighter. Firefighters, as a normal course of their employment, are continually required to respond to life threatening incidents. They frequently witness the death or maiming of human beings. We feel that as long as the disorder is properly diagnosed by a licensed and board certified mental health professional, these injuries should be compensated as a workers' compensation claim.

Respectfully,

Ted Schroll Jr.

Ted Schroll Jr., Legislative Representative
Connecticut State Firefighters Association

SB8232013

Post Office Box 9 • Mansfield Center, CT 06250 • Telephone: (860) 423-5799