



CONNECTICUT STATE FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

February 26, 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 Senate Bill # 925, AN ACT CONCERNING WORKERS' COMPENSATION COVERAGE FOR FIREFIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS.**

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

We believe that this is a fair proposal. Our Association has been involved in claims that have surpassed the present restrictions that limit benefits to "while such member is in training or engaged in fire duty" It has occurred that the adrenalin rush of a fire incident may not allow for a cardiac emergency to surface until hours after the incident when the claimant is in a more relaxed mode. Sometimes a firefighter's body, in a smoke filled environment, absorbs toxins that can take a period of time to dissipate. We feel that the 72 hour time frame would allow for a claimant's vital signs to return to normal.

We would like to suggest that a Section 2 be added to this bill to amend CGS 7-314a (d) in order to add the same "72 hour" additional time frame for volunteer firefighters.

Respectfully,

Ted Schroll Jr.

Ted Schroll Jr., Legislative Representative
Connecticut State Firefighters Association