



General Assembly

January Session, 2015

**Raised Bill No. 6776**

LCO No. 3070



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

Introduced by:  
(PS)

**AN ACT CONCERNING JUST CAUSE DISMISSALS FOR MUNICIPAL FIRE CHIEFS.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 7-302 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2015*):

3 No active head of any fire department of any town, city or borough  
4 shall be dismissed unless [he] there is a showing of just cause by the  
5 authority having the power of dismissal and such person has been  
6 given notice in writing of the specific grounds for such dismissal and  
7 an opportunity to be heard in his or her own defense, personally or by  
8 counsel, at a public hearing before [the] such authority. [having the  
9 power of dismissal.] Such public hearing, unless otherwise specified by  
10 charter, shall be held not less than five nor more than ten days after  
11 such notice. Any person so dismissed may appeal within thirty days  
12 following such dismissal to the superior court for the judicial district in  
13 which such town, city or borough is located. Service shall be made as  
14 in civil process. Said court shall review the record of such hearing, and,  
15 if it appears upon the hearing upon the appeal that testimony is

16 necessary for an equitable disposition of the appeal, it may take  
17 evidence or appoint a referee or a committee to take such evidence as it  
18 directs and report the same to the court with [his or its] the referee's or  
19 committee's findings of fact, which report shall constitute a part of the  
20 proceedings upon which the determination of the court shall be made.  
21 The court, upon such appeal, and after a hearing thereon, may affirm  
22 the action of such authority, or may set the same aside if it finds that  
23 such authority acted illegally or arbitrarily, or in the abuse of its  
24 discretion, or with bad faith or malice or without just cause.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2015	7-302

**PS**      *Joint Favorable*