

UNIFORMED PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION OF CONNECTICUT

AFFILIATED WITH INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIRE FIGHTERS

30 Sherman Street, West Hartford, CT 06110

Office: (860) 953-3200 Office Fax: (860) 953-3334

PRINCIPAL OFFICERS

Peter S. Carozza, Jr., *President*

Louis P. DeMici, *Secretary*

Robert P. Anthony, *Treasurer*



Rick Hart
Director
Legislative/Political Affairs

Testimony in SUPPORT of: SB 556 - AN ACT CONCERNING ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION FOR CERTAIN RETIRED PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYEES

Good afternoon, Honorable Chairmen Rep. McCarthy-Vahey and Sen. Cassano, members of the Planning and Development Committee. The Uniformed Professional Firefighters Association of Connecticut represents 60 Local affiliates of the International Association of Firefighters and is comprised of approximately 4,000 Union firefighters in Connecticut.

Often times public safety employees are forced to retire as a result of an injury that occurs in the line of duty. These retirements come at a time when the employee is not ready nor have they planned on retiring. Retirement planning is a process that takes time and research. For an employee to go from being healthy and fully employed to being forced to retire as a result of a career ending injury requires just compensation. This bill provides that- allowing an employee to suffer no loss of wages or earnings due to an injury.

Therefore, as an organization, the UPFFA supports and requests SB 556 move forward.

Thank you,

Richard Hart

Rick Hart

Director, Legislative and Political Affairs

Uniformed Professional Firefighters

Association

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Walter M. O'Connor, *President Emeritus*
Santo J. Alleano, Jr., *Vice President Emeritus*

Raymond D. Shea, *President Emeritus*
Patrick J. Shevlin, *Treasurer Emeritus*