Bill No.: HB-5153
Title: AN ACT CONCERNING THE PURCHASE OF BODY ARMOR BY FIREFIGHTERS, FIRE DEPARTMENTS, EMERGENCY SERVICES PERSONNEL AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS.

Vote Date: 3/19/2019
Vote Action: Joint Favorable
PH Date: 2/14/2019

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SPONSORS OF BILL:
REP. SREDZINSKI, 112th Dist.
REP. CAMILLO, 151st Dist.

REASONS FOR BILL:
To allow firefighters, fire departments, emergency services personnel and emergency medical service organizations to purchase or receive body armor through an online source.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:
None

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:
Victoria Benoit, Registered Nurse Voiced her support for HB 5153. She cites Body Substance Isolation as a way people in her field as a registered nurse prevent contact in the event of bodily fluids come loose. Her logic is that body armor is like a seatbelt, a necessary precaution.

Greg Allard, Chairman, CT EMS Advisory board With his experience in emergency Services, Greg states the specific statute changes he feels need to be added to the proposed bill. The changes seemed to have been addressed in the committee bill.

Bill Ackley, Chairman, State EMS Emergency Preparedness Committee Bill states how at the cites of tragic events there are police with readily accessible body armor there, but the EMS and fire professionals more often than not do not have access to the same protections.
Marc Hartog, Deputy Director, Westport EMS Marc states how at the cites of tragic events there are police with readily accessible body armor there, but the EMS and fire professionals more often than not do not have access to the same protections.

Michael Loiz, Director of EMS/911, Town of Stratford He says that many departments who do not have a local public safety uniform store cannot readily access the body armor, and therefore could be out in unneeded danger.

Michael Mansi, Paramedic He cites his experience as a paramedic and uses his personal experiences. He was assaulted twice in the line of duty, and has been involved in many violent crimes.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:
None

Reported by:  Assistant Clerk Don Cretella  Date: 3/21/19