

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY CANCER
RELIEF BENEFITS FOR FIREFIGHTERS.**

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

1 Section 1. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force
2 to study cancer relief benefits for firefighters. Such study shall include,
3 but need not be limited to, an examination of (1) the adequacy of the
4 firefighters cancer relief program established pursuant to section 7-313j
5 of the general statutes, and (2) the feasibility and implications of
6 providing workers' compensation and other benefits, including death
7 benefits, to firefighters who are diagnosed with cancer acquired as a
8 result of occupational exposure to noxious fumes or poisonous gases.

9 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

10 (1) The chairpersons of the joint standing committee of the General
11 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor;

12 (2) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
13 one of whom has expertise in the state's workers' compensation
14 program and one of whom has expertise in cancer research;

15 (3) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one of
16 whom shall be a representative of a firefighters' labor organization.

17 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of
18 Representatives;

19 (5) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate;

20 (6) Two appointed by the minority leader of the House of
21 Representatives, one of whom shall be a representative of a municipality
22 with a paid fire department; and

23 (7) Two appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, one of whom
24 shall be a representative of a municipality with a volunteer fire
25 department.

26 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (2),
27 (3), (4), (5), (6) or (7) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member
28 of the General Assembly.

29 (d) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later
30 than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy shall
31 be filled by the appointing authority.

32 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president pro
33 tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force from
34 among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall schedule
35 the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not later than sixty
36 days after the effective date of this section.

37 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
38 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor shall
39 serve as administrative staff of the task force.

40 (g) Not later than January 1, 2022, the task force shall submit a report
41 on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing committee of
42 the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to labor, in
43 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes.
44 The task force shall terminate on the date that it submits such report or
45 January 1, 2022, whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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