



UPFFA

Uniformed Professional Fire Fighters Association of Connecticut

#2

Legislative

UPDATE

News and information from Connecticut's
Professional Fire Fighters
FEBRUARY 28, 2008

NOTE: PUBLIC HEARING TUESDAY MARCH 4, 2:30 PM. ALL HANDS ON DECK!

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

H.B. 5629 AAC WORKERS' COMPENSATION COVERAGE FOR FIREFIGHTERS, POLICE OFFICERS AND EMERGENCY RESCUE WORKERS is scheduled for a

**Public Hearing at 2:30 PM on
March 4, 2008, room TBA.**

PLEASE DO ALL THAT YOU CAN TO ATTEND THIS MEETING IN UNIFORM ALONG WITH AS MANY BROTHERS AND SISTERS FROM YOUR LOCAL AS YOU CAN. FOLLOWING THE HARD WORK PUT IN LAST YEAR, THIS BILL HAS A VERY GOOD CHANCE OF PASSING...BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP! THIS BILL WILL BE A DIRECT BENEFIT TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILIES, PLEASE DON'T LET THIS OPPORTUNITY PASS WITHOUT STEPPING UP TO THE PLATE.

BE AT THE CAPITOL AT 1:30 PM AND YOU WILL BE PROVIDED INSTRUCTIONS ON WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP.

THANKS AND SEE YOU NEXT WEEK.

HOUSE BILLS

H.B. No. 5039 REP. CAFERO, 142nd DIST.; SEN. MCKINNEY, 28th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING AN ENHANCED 9-1-1 SERVICE DATABASE', to implement the Governor's budget recommendations. - 2/7/2008 Public Safety

H.B. No. 5040 REP. CAFERO, 142nd DIST.; SEN. MCKINNEY, 28th DIST. 'AN ACT ESTABLISHING A CONNECTICUT PUBLIC SAFETY DATA NETWORK', to implement the Governor's budget recommendations. 2/7/2008 Public Safety

H.B. No. 5058 REP. CAFERO, 142nd DIST.; REP. HAMZY, 78th DIST.; REP. KLARIDES, 114th DIST. 'AN ACT REDEFINING TERMS CONCERNING THE SPENDING CAP', to implement the constitutional limitation on the amount of expenditures that may be authorized by the General Assembly by redefining, with the approval of three-fifths of the members of each house, certain terms related to the spending cap. **REF. APPROPRIATIONS**

H.B. No. 5059 REP. DELGOBBO, 70th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL SPENDING CAP', to implement the constitutional limitation on expenditures by the General Assembly.

H.B. No. 5066 REP. KALINOWSKI, 100th DIST. 'AN ACT EXEMPTING MILITARY AND CIVIL SERVICE PENSIONS FROM THE STATE INCOME TAX', to recognize the special career contributions of veterans and federal, state and municipal civil service retirees. - 2/11/2008 Referred to Joint Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding

H.B. No. 5067 REP. KALINOWSKI, 100th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE TAXATION OF RETIREMENT INCOME', to allow recipients of retirement income to retain such income without tax liability. - 2/11/2008 Referred to Joint Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding

nue and Bonding **REF. APPROPRIATIONS**

[H.B. No. 5115](#) (RAISED) LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES. 'AN ACT CLARIFYING DEFINITIONS IN MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING STATUTES', to clarify definitions within the municipal employee collective bargaining statutes as it pertains to union membership. **REF. LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES**

[H.B. No. 5248](#) REP. PERILLO, 113th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE INCOME TAX TREATMENT OF PENSIONS AND SOCIAL SECURITY', to remove pension and Social Security income from personal income tax calculations. **REF. FINANCE, REVENUE AND BONDING**

[H.B. No. 5286](#) REP. O'BRIEN, 24th DIST. 'AN ACT INCREASING PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF TAXES TO MUNICIPALITIES', to increase amounts paid to municipalities for payments in lieu of taxes for state-owned properties and colleges and hospitals. **REF. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

[H.B. No. 5281](#) REP. FREY, 111th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING WORKERS' COMPENSATION FOR POLICE OFFICERS, FIREFIGHTERS AND EMERGENCY SERVICES PERSONNEL', to permit police officers, firefighters and emergency services personnel to collect workers' compensation for injuries sustained while responding to off-duty emergencies. **REF. LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES**

[H.B. No. 5288](#) REP. O'BRIEN, 24th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING STATE PAYMENTS TO MUNICIPALITIES FOR PROPERTY TAX RELIEF', to increase state payments in lieu of taxes for state property and property owned by colleges and hospitals. **REF. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

[H.B. No. 5306](#) REP. RYAN, 139th DIST.; SEN. STILLMAN, 20th DIST.; REP. RITTER, 38th DIST. 'AN ACT CONCERNING FEES PAID FOR MOTOR VEHICLE LICENSE PLATES BY FIREFIGHTERS', to eliminate a state fee for vanity plates for firefighters. **REF. PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY**

[H.B. No. 5416](#) (COMM) HIGHER EDUCA-

TION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING A TUITION WAIVER FOR VOLUNTEER FIRST RESPONDERS ATTENDING COMMUNITY-TECHNICAL COLLEGES', to provide tuition waivers for volunteer first responders at community-technical colleges. **REF. HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT**

[H.B. No. 5484](#) (RAISED) LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE PURCHASE OF CREDIT FOR MILITARY SERVICE IN THE MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT ACT', to extend the time period for the purchase of credit for military service in the municipal employees' retirement system. **REF. LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES**

[H.B. No. 5531](#) (RAISED) JUDICIARY. 'AN ACT ADOPTING THE REVISED UNIFORM ARBITRATION ACT', to respond to the increased use of arbitration in resolving disputes and revise and modernize arbitration procedures by adopting the Revised Uniform Arbitration Act. **REF. JUDICIARY**

[H.B. No. 5559](#) REP. CAFERO, 142nd DIST.; REP. HAMZY, 78th DIST.; REP. KLARIDES, 114th DIST. 'AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR A SCHOLARSHIP FOR NURSING AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN STUDENTS', to encourage people to enter into the nursing and emergency medical technical fields so that the state can continue to provide quality healthcare to those in need. **REF. HIGHER EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT ADVANCEMENT**

[H.B. No. 5569](#) REP. CARUSO, 126th DIST.; REP. HENNESSY, 127th DIST.; REP. KEELEY, 129th DIST. 'AN ACT AUTHORIZING BONDS OF THE STATE FOR A FIRE STATION IN BRIDGEPORT', to authorize bonds of the state for a combined ladder and hose engine fire station in Bridgeport. **REF. PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY**

[H.B. No. 5570](#) REP. HARKINS, 120th DIST. 'AN ACT APPROPRIATING FUNDS FOR A GRANT TO STRATFORD FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PURPOSES',

to appropriate funds for a grant to Stratford for emergency management related purchases. **REF. PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY**

[H.B. No. 5629](#) (RAISED) LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES. 'AN ACT CONCERNING WORKERS' COMPENSATION COVERAGE FOR FIREFIGHTERS, POLICE OFFICERS AND EMERGENCY RESCUE WORKERS', to establish a rebuttable presumption that a firefighter, police officer or emergency rescue worker who contracts hepatitis, meningococcal meningitis, tuberculosis or certain other diseases is eligible for workers' compensation provided he or she meets certain requirements. **REF. LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES** - *Public Hearing 03/04*

[H.B. No. 5646](#) (RAISED) PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY. 'AN ACT CONCERNING VOLUNTEER SERVICE BY PAID EMERGENCY PERSONNEL OR PAID FIREFIGHTERS', to prohibit municipalities from banning their paid firefighter personnel and emergency personnel from serving as volunteer firefighters in another municipality during personal time. **REF. PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY** - *Public Hearing 02-26*

[H.B. No. 5647](#) (RAISED) PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE SUBSIDIZATION OF MUNICIPAL PUBLIC SAFETY EMERGENCY TELECOMMUNICATIONS CENTERS', to exempt certain fire departments that rely on a secondary answering point for emergency telecommunications services from a reduction in E-9-1-1 funding. **REF. PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY**

[H.B. No. 5660](#) (RAISED) GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS. 'AN ACT PROHIBITING "ROBO" CALLS', to prohibit certain political "robo" calls and limit the use of such "robo" call technology. **REF. GOVERNMENT ADMINISTRATION AND ELECTIONS** - *Public Hearing 02/29*

[H.B. No. 5669](#) (RAISED) PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY. 'AN ACT SHIELDING FIRE DEPARTMENTS THAT INSTALL SMOKE AND CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS FROM LIABILITY', to shield fire departments that install smoke and carbon

monoxide detectors from any liability stemming from such installation. **REF. PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY** - *Public Hearing 03/04*

[H.B. No. 5674](#) (RAISED) PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE POWERS OF REGIONAL COUNCILS OF GOVERNMENT', to authorize regional councils of government to share tax benefits, impose taxes and promote intermunicipal cooperation, decision-making and regional success. **REF. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

[H.B. No. 5678](#) (RAISED) LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES. 'AN ACT CONCERNING WORKERS' COMPENSATION PRESUMPTIONS FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION', to provide workers' compensation presumptions for employees of the Department of Correction. **REF. LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES**

[H.B. No. 5802](#) (RAISED) PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE STATE FIRE PREVENTION CODE', to provide processes for the interpretation, alternative compliance, penalties under and appeals pursuant to the State Fire Prevention Code, to delete the prohibition against inspecting manufacturing establishments, and to permit the local fire marshals and State Fire Marshal to issue citations and apply for an injunction when a hazardous condition exists. **REF. PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY** - *Public Hearing 03/04*

SENATE BILLS

[S.B. No. 63](#) (RAISED) LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES. 'AN ACT CONCERNING POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER AND THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT', to reinsert the post-traumatic stress disorder clause into the Workers' Compensation Act. **REF. LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES**

[S.B. No. 180](#) (RAISED) PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY. 'AN ACT APPROPRIAT-

ING FUNDS FOR FIREFIGHTER TRAINING', to provide for the full funding of entry level fire service personnel training and to appropriate two and one-half million dollars a year for such training. **REF. PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY - Public Hearing 02/19**

[S.B. No. 486](#) (RAISED) LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES. 'AN ACT CONCERNING FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE FOR EMPLOYEES OF MUNICIPALITIES', to provide the same number of weeks of family and medical leave to municipal employees that state employees receive. **REF. LABOR AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEES – Public Hearing 03/06**

[S.B. No. 500](#) (RAISED) TRANSPORTATION. 'AN ACT CONCERNING HIGHWAY WORK ZONE SAFETY', to create a Highway Work Zone Safety Advisory Council to protect highway workers in work zones, and to establish the offenses of "endangerment of a highway worker" and "aggravated endangerment of a highway worker". **REF. TRANSPORTATION – Public Hearing 03/05**

[S.B. No. 540](#) (RAISED) PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY. 'AN ACT DOUBLING THE FINES FOR MOVING MOTOR VEHICLE VIOLATIONS OCCURRING IN EMERGENCY RESPONSE AREAS', to double the fine for moving motor vehicle violations that occur in emergency response areas. **REF. PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY – Public Hearing 03/04**

[H.B. No. 5809](#) (RAISED) PUBLIC HEALTH. 'AN ACT CONCERNING THE RECRUITMENT, TRAINING, INITIAL CERTIFICATION AND RETENTION OF EMERGENCY SERVICES PERSONNEL', to require the Department of Public Health to study issues surrounding the recruitment, training, initial certification and retention of emergency services personnel in the state. **REF. PUBLIC HEALTH**