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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012

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A N A C T

RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - THE FIREFIGHTER CANCER WELLNESS ACT

Introduced By: Representatives Keable, Hull, Silva, Slater, and Guthrie

Date Introduced: April 05, 2012

Referred To: House Health, Education & Welfare

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Section 23-12.8-3 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-12.8 entitled "The  
2 Firefighter Cancer Wellness Act" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3           **23-12.8-3. Education program established.** -- (a) The director of the department of  
4 health shall annually provide to the office of the state fire marshal information regarding cancer  
5 incidence among professional and volunteer firefighters, [as well as emergency medical](#)  
6 [technicians](#), the increase in survival rates attributable to early detection and the availability of  
7 cancer screening as well as any other applicable testing methods designed to decrease the  
8 incidence and severity of malignant conditions resulting from occupational exposure to hazardous  
9 materials.

10           (b) The office of the state fire marshal shall annually inform the fire chiefs of all  
11 professional and volunteer departments and districts in the state of Rhode Island of the cancer  
12 risks associated with firefighting and the importance of frequent medical examination including  
13 cancer screening.

14           (c) The department of health, the state fire marshal and Rhode Island municipalities may  
15 enter into contracts with healthcare and/or cancer screening providers for the purpose of  
16 establishing preventative programs for firefighters and related professions.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on September 30, 2012.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY - THE FIREFIGHTER CANCER WELLNESS ACT

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1           This act would require that emergency medical technicians cancer incidence will be  
2 reported annually by the director of the department of health to the office of the state fire marshal.

3           This act would take effect on September 30, 2012.

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