



HOUSE BILL 466: Firefighters' Line of Duty Diseases/Funds.

2019-2020 General Assembly

Committee:	House Insurance. If favorable, re-refer to Appropriations, General Government. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	April 11, 2019
Introduced by:	Reps. Riddell, Saine, Wray, Barnes	Prepared by:	Jeremy Ray Staff Attorney
Analysis of:	First Edition		

OVERVIEW: *House Bill 446 would expand the list of cancers covered as occupational diseases for firefighters and appropriate funds to cover the cost of the additional death benefits.*

CURRENT LAW: When the death of a firefighter occurs as a direct and proximate result of certain cancers that are occupationally related to firefighting, that firefighter is presumed to have been killed in the line of duty and eligible for firefighters' death benefits. Cancers that are currently covered include the following:

- Mesothelioma
- Testicular cancer
- Intestinal cancer
- Esophageal cancer

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 446 would expand the list of covered cancers as occupational diseases for firefighters to also include:

- Non-Hodgkin's lymphoma
- Brain and other nervous system cancer.
- Multiple myeloma

It would also rename "intestinal cancer," already covered, to "cancer of the small intestine."

House Bill would appropriate from the General Fund to the Department of Insurance the sum of one million twenty-three thousand dollars (\$1,023,000) for fiscal year 2019-2020, and fiscal year 2020-2021 in recurring funds to cover the additional occupational diseases cost for firefighters' death benefit.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act would become effective July 1, 2019.

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