



HOUSE BILL 535: Firefighters Fighting Cancer Act of 2021.

2021-2022 General Assembly

Committee:	House Health. If favorable, re-refer to Finance. If favorable, re-refer to Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	Date:	April 22, 2021
Introduced by:	Reps. D. Hall, Bell, Saine, Hardister	Prepared by:	Jessica Boney Staff Attorney
Analysis of:	PCS to First Edition H535-CSBPxf-5		

OVERVIEW: House Bill 535 would create the Firefighter Cancer Health Care Benefit Plan to provide benefits for firefighters diagnosed with cancer.

BILL ANALYSIS:

Section 1 states House Bill 535 shall be known as "The Firefighters Fighting Cancer Act of 2021".

Section 2 creates a new Article 87A in Chapter 58 of the General Statutes titled Firefighter Cancer Health Care Benefit Plan (Plan). It would do the following:

Definitions. Create definitions for "cancer", "cancer benefit plan", "eligible firefighter", "fire department", and "firefighter".

Establishment of Plan. Direct the Department of Insurance (Department) to administer the Plan as a supplemental policy for eligible firefighters with a new diagnosis of cancer on or after January 1, 2022.

Plan Eligibility. Explain in order to be eligible, a firefighter must serve for a minimum of five continuous years, have a new diagnosis of cancer on or after January 1, 2022, and not be receiving workers compensation benefits related to cancer.

Plan Benefits. For each diagnosis of cancer to an eligible firefighter, reimburse up to \$12,000 for out-of-pocket medical expenses and make payable a lump sum benefit of \$25,000, and provide a monthly disability benefit with certain limitations.

Reporting Requirements. Require the Department to submit an annual report starting January 1, 2023 to the General Assembly and the Governor with specified information about the Plan.

Section 3 requires the Department to show proof of required insurance coverage for all firefighters on the Certified Roster submitted to the N.C. State Firefighters' Association.

Section 4 would appropriate \$17,000,000 in nonrecurring funds for the first year of the fiscal biennium to the Department to support the Plan.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Section 2 would be effective January 1, 2022. Except as otherwise provided, this act would be effective when it becomes law.

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Legislative Analysis
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