

The Connecticut General Assembly

House Democrats



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Contact: Alberto Negron
(860) 240-8518

REP. HAMPTON APPLAUDS PASSAGE OF HB 5262

Bill will create a wage replacement program for firefighters who contract cancer

State Representative John K. Hampton (D-Simsbury) is pleased to announce that the firefighter's cancer bill he co-sponsored has passed the House of Representatives and Senate and now heads to Governor Malloy's desk for signing.

H.B.5262, An Act Concerning Workers Compensation Coverage for Current and Former Uniformed Members of Paid or Volunteer Firefighters, would establish a relief fund used for wage replacement of those who are diagnosed with certain conditions of cancer as a result of their service as paid municipal or volunteer firefighters.

"I am very pleased to count myself as a strong supporter of this important bill," **Rep. Hampton said**. "Our firefighters are there for us every day and every night to protect our families and neighborhoods, and are often exposed to pollutants that contribute to cancers. It is imperative that we provide a vehicle to support them – I look forward to seeing this measure become law."

The bill will also apply to firefighters who are no longer actively serving but who otherwise would be eligible for wage replacement benefits. These firefighters may apply for such benefits no more than five years from the date such individual last served.

In addition to providing wage benefits, this bill also requires firefighters to take preventative measures to avoid contracting cancer. Eligibility for the relief fund requires firefighters to maintain a healthy lifestyle and undergo regular pre-screening for cancer.

John Hampton represents Simsbury's 16th Assembly District. He is Vice-Chair of the Committee on Children and serves on the Aging, Banks, and Public Safety and Security Committees.

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