

NEW JERSEY STATE FIREMEN'S ASSOCIATION

1711 Route 34 South • Wall Township, New Jersey 07727

Telephone: (800) 852 0137

Robert F. Ordway, President
Joseph T. Hankins, Vice President
Edward R. Mullen, CPA, Treasurer
Frank P. Cavallo, Esq., Counsel

Thomas J. Pelaia, Secretary
Brian E. Martone, 1st Asst. Secretary
Richard K. Dreby, 2nd Asst. Secretary
Jennie M. Hollingsworth, Field Examiner

Legislative Committee Report

July 22, 2023

To: Officers & All Members of the Executive Committee,

The 2022-2023 Legislative Session has a total of 10,177 bills introduced so far as of this report. The Legislative Committee is currently tracking 179 bills that relate to the fire service. The Governor has signed 273 bills into law and has ninety-four bills sitting on his desk as of today. Three of our tracked bills are currently sitting on the Governor's Desk waiting to be signed. A-5179, "Fire Life Safety Damper and Smoke Control System Inspection Verification Act"; Requires routine maintenance and periodic testing of smoke dampers, fire dampers, and smoke control systems in certain buildings by qualified personnel. A-5275, allows municipality to determine if newly appointed individual serving as municipal fire department chaplain will hold rank and receive salary and benefits. S-861, allows municipalities to conduct an annual event for open burning of Christmas trees. One of our tracked bills has been signed into law since the last Executive Committee Meeting, S-3090, provides retirement allowance after 20 years of service regardless of age for members of PFRS. We are currently at five of our tracked bills that have been signed into law for this Legislative Session.

The Volunteer Cancer Screening bills, S-3405 & A-5081, mandates access to periodic cancer screening examinations for volunteer firefighters are both referred to committees for a hearing. S-3405 has already been heard once in a committee and was referred to the Senate Budget and Appropriations Committee for a second reading. There are several tax credit bills in the system, however, one has been approved by the Assembly and sent to the Senate, A-757, allows certain volunteer firefighters, rescue and first aid squad members to claim \$2,000 gross income tax exemption. There are also two bills that were introduced into Legislation last month, A-5564 & S-3904, extends pension eligibility for survivors of certain emergency services volunteers who contracted COVID-19 during 2020 public health emergency declared by Governor.

Respectfully Submitted,



Brian E. Martone
Legislative Committee Chairman
First Assistant Secretary