

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 253

BY REPRESENTATIVES STAGNI, BAYHAM, BILLINGS, CARVER, DOMANGUE,  
FREIBERG, JACKSON, KNOX, LYONS, MARCELLE, MOORE, NEWELL, AND  
OWEN

FIRE PROTECT/FIREMEN: Provides relative to cancer screenings for certain firefighters  
and fire service employees

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 33:2581.4, relative to certain firefighters and fire service employees; to  
3 provide relative to cancer screenings for such firefighters and employees; to provide  
4 relative to the time period for cancer screening examinations; to provide relative to  
5 screenings for retired firefighters and fire service employees; to provide for an  
6 effective date; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 33:2581.4 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §2581.4. Cancer screenings; certain firefighters and fire service employees

10 A. A classified firefighter employed as a full-time paid employee of a  
11 municipal or parish fire department or fire protection district; fire service employees  
12 employed by a non profit corporation under contract with a fire protection district;  
13 and volunteer firefighters as defined in R.S. 23:1036 shall be provided a cancer  
14 screening examination conducted by a physician not less than three years after the  
15 start of employment or volunteer service and every three years thereafter during the  
16 course of employment or service. The examination shall include but not be limited  
17 to screening for the following cancers:

18 (1) Colon.

19 (2) Lung.

1           (3) Bladder.

2           (4) Oral.

3           (5) Thyroid.

4           (6) Skin.

5           (7) Blood.

6           (8) Breast.

7           (9) Cervical.

8           (10) Testicular.

9           (11) Prostate.

10           B. Any firefighter or fire service employee who retires from active service,  
11           including a firefighter or fire service employee who retires due to a disability, shall  
12           be provided cancer screening examinations by his former employer as provided in  
13           Subsection A of this Section.

14           C. All costs associated with cancer screening examinations provided for in  
15           this Section shall be paid by the firefighters's or fire service employee's employer or  
16           former employer. No co payment, deductible, coinsurance, or any out-of-pocket  
17           expense shall be required for such examinations.

18           D. No firefighter or fire service employee shall be required to participate in  
19           cancer screening examinations.

20           Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
21 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
22 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
23 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
24 effective on the day following such approval.

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**DIGEST**

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HB 253 Engrossed

2024 Regular Session

Stagni

**Abstract:** Requires that certain firefighters and fire service employees be provided cancer screening examinations.

Proposed law requires that classified firefighters employed as full-time paid employees of municipal or parish fire departments or fire protection districts, fire service employees employed by non profit corporations under contract with fire protection districts, and volunteer firefighters as defined in present law (R.S. 23:1036) be provided cancer screening examinations.

Proposed law requires that the cancer screenings examinations be conducted by a physician not less than three years after the start of employment or volunteer service and every three years thereafter during the course of employment or service.

Proposed law requires that the examination include, but not be limited to the following cancers:

- (1) Colon.
- (2) Lung.
- (3) Bladder.
- (4) Oral.
- (5) Thyroid.

Proposed law requires that retired firefighters and fire service employees be provided cancer screening examinations by their former employers pursuant to proposed law. Additionally requires employers and former employers to pay for the costs of cancer screening examinations.

Proposed law provides that no firefighter or fire service employee shall be required to participate in cancer screening examinations.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 33:2581.4)