

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 253

BY REPRESENTATIVES STAGNI, ADAMS, BAYHAM, BILLINGS, BRASS, ROBBY CARTER, WILFORD CARTER, CARVER, CHASSION, DOMANGUE, FISHER, FREIBERG, GADBERRY, GREEN, HILFERTY, JACKSON, KNOX, LARVADAIN, LYONS, MARCELLE, MOORE, NEWELL, OWEN, AND THOMPSON

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 and fire service
12 employees employed by a nonprofit corporation under contract with a fire protection
13 district shall be provided a cancer screening examination conducted by a physician.

14 The initial examination shall be conducted not less than three years after the start of
15 employment and subsequent examinations shall be conducted during the course of
16 employment in accordance with the following schedule:

17 (1) Every five years for firefighters and fire service employees who are not
18 less than twenty years of age and not more than thirty-nine years of age.

19 (2) Every four years for firefighters and fire service employees who are not
20 less than forty years of age and not more than forty-nine years of age.

1 (3) Every three years for firefighters and fire service employees who are fifty
2 years of age or older.

3 B. The examination shall include but not be limited to screening for the
4 following cancers:

5 (1) Colon.

6 (2) Lung.

7 (3) Bladder.

8 (4) Oral.

9 (5) Thyroid.

10 (6) Skin.

11 (7) Blood.

12 (8) Breast.

13 (9) Cervical.

14 (10) Testicular.

15 (11) Prostate.

16 C. Any firefighter or fire service employee who retires from active service,
17 including a firefighter or fire service employee who retires due to a disability, shall
18 be provided cancer screening examinations by his former employer pursuant to the
19 schedule provided in Subsection A of this Section.

20 D. All costs associated with cancer screening examinations provided for in
21 this Section shall be paid by the firefighter's or fire service employee's employer or
22 former employer. No copayment, deductible, coinsurance, or any out-of-pocket
23 expense shall be required for such examinations.

24 E. No firefighter or fire service employee shall be required to participate in
25 cancer screening examinations.

26 F. The provisions of the Section shall not be applicable to any firefighter or
27 fire service employee who resigned or was terminated by his employer.

28 G. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to require a personal health
29 insurance company to pay for cancer screening examinations for firefighters or fire
30 service employees that are conducted more frequently than such examinations are

1 recommended in the most recently published recommendations established by the
2 American Cancer Society or the National Comprehensive Cancer Network.

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

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____