

GREEN SHEET REDIGEST

HB 253

2024 Regular Session

Stagni

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

DIGEST

Proposed law requires that classified firefighters employed as full-time paid employees of municipal or parish fire departments or fire protection districts and fire service employees employed by nonprofit corporations under contract with fire protection districts be provided cancer screening examinations.

Proposed law requires that the cancer screening examinations be conducted by a physician not less than three years after the start of employment and shall be conducted thereafter during the course of employment in accordance with the following schedule:

- (1) Every five years for firefighters and fire service employees who are between 19 and 39 years of age.
- (2) Every four years for firefighters and fire service employees who are between 40 and 50 years of age.
- (3) Every three years for firefighters and fire service employees who are 51 years of age.

Proposed law requires that the examination includes, 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. Further provides that proposed law is not applicable to any firefighter or fire service employee who resigned or was terminated by his employer.

Proposed law provides that nothing in proposed law shall be construed to require a personal health insurance company to pay for cancer screening examinations for firefighters or fire service employees that are conducted more frequently than such examinations are recommended in the most recently published recommendations established by the American Cancer Society or the National Comprehensive Cancer Network.

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

(Adds R.S. 33:2581.4)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill:

1. Remove provisions that make proposed law applicable to certain volunteer firefighters.
2. Add provisions to make proposed law inapplicable to firefighters and fire service employees who resigned or were terminated by their employer.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Local and Municipal Affairs to the reengrossed bill

1. Provide that the time frame for subsequent cancer screening examinations shall be based on the age of the firefighter.
2. Provide that proposed law should not be interpreted to require a personal health insurance company to pay for cancer screening examinations for firefighters or fire service employees more frequently than the recommended examinations in the most recently published recommendations established by the American Cancer Society or the National Comprehensive Cancer Network.
3. Make technical changes.

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Finance to the reengrossed bill

1. Adjusts the time frames for subsequent cancer screening examinations based on the age of the firefighter.