

Second Regular Session of the 121st General Assembly (2020)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2019 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

SENATE ENROLLED ACT No. 258

AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning labor and safety.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

SECTION 1. IC 27-7-2-4.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS** [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020]: **Sec. 4.5. The bureau may recommend a premium or rate discount for a municipal corporation purchasing or procuring worker's compensation insurance under IC 22-3-2-2(c) or a volunteer fire department purchasing worker's compensation insurance under IC 36-8-12-10 that has implemented the best practices established under IC 36-8-10.5-11.**

SECTION 2. IC 36-8-10.5-11 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS** [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020]: **Sec. 11. (a) The education board must establish best practices to improve safety and health outcomes for full-time firefighters and volunteer firefighters not later than July 1, 2021.**

(b) The best practices must include:

- (1) a proactive health and safety risk management system consisting of a joint employer and employee governance structure to oversee a continuous process of identification, evaluation, monitoring and controlling, and reporting of safety and health hazards in the workplace;**
 - (2) ways to reduce firefighter risk of exposure to carcinogens;**
- and**

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(3) ways to prevent or reduce the risk of injuries and illness with particular focus on causes of compensable worker's compensation or disability claims.

(c) The education board shall:

(1) review programs established by political subdivisions and volunteer fire departments implementing best practices under this section; and

(2) provide a political subdivision or volunteer fire department with a letter for submission to an insurance company for consideration in a premium or rate discount toward the purchase or procurement of worker's compensation insurance under IC 22-3-2-2 that states that the political subdivision or volunteer fire department has implemented best practices under this section.

SECTION 3. IC 36-8-10.5-12 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2020]: Sec. 12. (a) The best practices fund is established for the purpose of providing matching grants to political subdivisions and volunteer fire departments to purchase equipment and other gear to implement best practices established under section 11 of this chapter.

(b) The fund shall be administered by the education board.

(c) The fund consists of:

(1) appropriations from the general assembly; and

(2) amounts deposited from any other public or private source.

(d) The expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from money in the fund.

(e) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not currently needed to meet obligations of the fund in the same manner as other public money may be invested. Interest that accrues from these investments shall be deposited in the fund.

(f) Money in the fund at the end of the state fiscal year does not revert to the state general fund.

(g) The education board shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 to implement this section.



President of the Senate

President Pro Tempore

Speaker of the House of Representatives

Governor of the State of Indiana

Date: _____ Time: _____

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