



UPFFA

Uniformed Professional Fire Fighters Association of Connecticut

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The **HOT** Sheet

*News and information from Connecticut's
Professional Fire Fighters*

HB 5629...WHERE WE ARE NOW!

On March 11, 2008, HB 5629, AN ACT CONCERNING WORKERS' COMPENSATION COVERAGE FOR FIREFIGHTERS AND POLICE OFFICERS was JFS'ed to the floor from the Labor and Public Employees Committee as **LCO # 3335** by an **UNANIMOUS** vote.

The substitute language agreed to by the Labor Committee dramatically changed the nature of the bill and created an atmosphere of compromise and cooperation which we believe is a positive development. We thank the Labor and Public Employees Committee Co-Chairs, Senator Edith Prague and Representative Kevin Ryan and the members of the committee for their hard work and commitment.

The bill **DOES NOT** contain coverage for **CANCER** or **HYPERTENSION**.

The cost to municipalities for H.B. 5629 is MINIMAL

SECTION 1—COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Any Police Officer or Fire Fighter who suffers a condition or impairment of health that is caused by **HEPATITIS, MENINGOCOCCAL MENINGITIS OR TUBERCULOSIS** shall be presumed to have sustained such condition or impairment of health in the course of employment **PROVIDED:**

1. Employee completed a physical examination, including a tuberculosis skin test, on entry into employment that failed to reveal any evidence of such condition or impairment of health; and
2. Employee presents a written affidavit verifying by written declaration that, to the best of his or her knowledge, they were not exposed to such disease outside of work.
3. Each employee shall maintain a file of exposures of employees and notify them of such exposures.
4. Employees shall file a report of exposures with employers for each incident of exposure.

SECTION 2—CARDIAC EMERGENCIES

A uniformed member of a paid municipal fire department or a regular member of a paid municipal police department who began such employment on or after July 1, 1996, who suffers a **CARDIAC EMERGENCY (cardiac arrest, myocardial infarction, myocardial ischemia or an arrhythmia leading to heart block)** occurring to such employee while on duty (in training for or engaged in fire duty at the site of an accident or fire or other public safety operation) shall be presumed to have sustained such incident in the line of duty unless proven otherwise **PROVIDED:**

1. Employee completed a physical examination on entry into such employment that failed to reveal any evidence of a cardiac emergency.