



House Bill No. 5646

Public Act No. 08-131

**AN ACT CONCERNING VOLUNTEER SERVICE BY PAID EMERGENCY PERSONNEL OR PAID FIREFIGHTERS.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Section 7-323s of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

(a) The State Fire Administrator, within available appropriations, shall develop model guidelines, on or before January 1, 2007, to be used by municipalities with paid municipal emergency personnel and municipalities with volunteer emergency personnel in entering into agreements authorizing volunteer emergency personnel to serve during personal time.

(b) A municipality with paid municipal emergency personnel and a municipality with volunteer emergency personnel may enter into an agreement authorizing paid emergency personnel to serve during personal time as active members of a volunteer fire department in the municipality in which they reside. In developing such agreements, such municipalities shall consider the model guidelines developed by the State Fire Administrator pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

(c) The municipalities that are parties to an agreement entered into under subsection (b) of this section may request the Labor Commissioner, within available appropriations, to provide assistance in resolving such issues arising out of the agreement as the commissioner deems appropriate.

Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) On and after the effective date of this section, no municipality shall enter into a contract that prohibits paid firefighters or paid emergency personnel of such municipality from serving as active members of a volunteer fire department in the municipality in which such firefighters or emergency personnel reside during personal time.

Approved June 5, 2008