



General Assembly

February Session, 2024

Raised Bill No. 5279

LCO No. 1281



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC SAFETY AND SECURITY

Introduced by:
(PS)

***AN ACT CONCERNING WORKERS' COMPENSATION COVERAGE
FOR POLICE OFFICERS AND FIREFIGHTERS FOR CERTAIN
MEDICAL EMERGENCIES OCCURRING IN THE LINE OF DUTY.***

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

1 Section 1. Section 31-294i of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2024*):

3 For the purpose of adjudication of claims for payment of benefits
4 under the provisions of this chapter to a uniformed member of a paid
5 municipal fire department or a regular member of a paid municipal
6 police department or constable who began such employment on or after
7 July 1, 1996, any condition or impairment of health caused by a cardiac
8 emergency occurring to such member or constable on or after July 1,
9 2009, or caused by a cerebrovascular incident or pulmonary embolism
10 occurring to such member or constable on or after July 1, 2024, while
11 such member or constable is in training for or engaged in fire duty at
12 the site of an accident or fire, or other public safety operation within the
13 scope of such member's or constable's employment for such member's
14 or constable's municipal employer, or up to twenty-four hours after

15 completion of such training or duty, that results in death or temporary
16 or permanent total or partial disability, shall be presumed to have been
17 suffered in the line of duty and within the scope of such member's or
18 constable's employment, unless the contrary is shown by a
19 preponderance of the evidence, provided such member or constable
20 successfully passed a physical examination on entry into service
21 conducted by a licensed physician, physician assistant or advanced
22 practice registered nurse designated by such department which
23 examination failed to reveal any evidence of such condition. For the
24 purposes of this section, "cardiac emergency" means cardiac arrest or
25 myocardial infarction, and "constable" means any municipal law
26 enforcement officer who is authorized to make arrests and has
27 completed Police Officer Standards and Training Council certification
28 pursuant to section 7-294a.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2024	31-294i

Statement of Purpose:

To expand the presumption of workers' compensation coverage for the death or disability of a police officer or firefighter to include deaths or disabilities resulting from a cerebrovascular incident or pulmonary embolism and expand the period of time when such an officer or firefighter is considered in the line of duty to include twenty-four hours after attending training or engaging in duties.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]