



State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 478

SENATE BILL NO. 778

By Johnson, Bell, Yager, Massey, Walley, White, Reeves, Bowling, Crowe, Haile, Akbari, Bailey, Briggs, Gardenhire, Hensley, Jackson, Pody, Powers, Rose, Southerland, Stevens, Mr. Speaker McNally

Substituted for: House Bill No. 772

By Lamberth, Gant, Russell, Griffey, Moon, Moody, Williams, Jerry Sexton, Todd, Sherrell, Powers, Hardaway, Ogles, Grills, Hall, Hurt, Haston, Eldridge, Littleton, Whitson, Doggett, Mannis, Cochran, Miller, Helton, Hawk, Cepicky, Warner, Thompson, Hakeem

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 24, Part 2, relative to volunteer firefighters.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 4-24-201, is amended by deleting the section and substituting instead the following:

As used in this part, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Commission" means the commission on firefighting personnel standards and education created by this chapter;

(2) "Fire department" means a department of a municipality, county, or political subdivision, or an organization, agency, or entity that offers its services, for or without pay, for the purpose of suppressing fires, performing rescue services, or for other emergency response purposes. "Fire department" does not mean law enforcement agencies, emergency medical agencies licensed by the Tennessee emergency medical services board, and rescue squads that do not provide fire protection;

(3) "Firefighter" means a person in the employ of a unit of government fire department that is registered and recognized by the state fire marshal and is required to extinguish and control fires or fire-related incidents; and

(4) "Volunteer firefighter" means a person who volunteers with a county, municipal, or nonprofit fire department that is registered and recognized by the state fire marshal and who is required to extinguish and control fires or fire-related incidents.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 4-24-202, is amended by deleting subsection (a) and substituting instead the following:

(a)(1) A fire department with employed firefighters who successfully complete in each year an in-service training course, appropriate to the firefighter's rank and responsibility and the size and location of the firefighter's department, of at least forty (40) hours duration at a school certified or established by the commission is entitled to receive a pay supplement of eight hundred dollars (\$800) from the commission to be paid to the firefighter in addition to the firefighter's regular salary.

(2) A fire department with volunteer firefighters who successfully complete in each year an in-service training course, appropriate to the volunteer firefighter's rank and responsibility and the size and location of the volunteer firefighter's department, of at least thirty (30) hours duration at a school certified or established by the commission is entitled to receive payment of six hundred dollars (\$600) from the

commission to be paid to the volunteer firefighter in addition to the volunteer firefighter's other compensation.

(3) A person is only eligible to receive payment under subdivision (a)(1) or (a)(2), whichever is greater, for successful completion of the person's annual in-service course.

SECTION 3. For the purpose of promulgating rules, this act takes effect upon becoming law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act takes effect July 1, 2021.

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PASSED: May 3, 2021


RANDY McNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE


CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 18th day of May 2021


BILL LEE, GOVERNOR