

March 16th, 2018

Everyone,

We've been told that we were successful convincing the General Law Committee to remove language we opposed from <u>SB-193</u> - AN ACT CONCERNING REVISIONS TO DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION STATUTES. That language would have allowed vendor companies to transport gasoline for mobile refueling in Connecticut.

<u>HB-5381</u> - AN ACT IMPOSING A SURCHARGE ON CERTAIN PERSONAL RISK INSURANCE POLICIES TO FUND REGIONAL FIRE SCHOOLS' OPERATING BUDGETS AND CERTAIN FIREFIGHTER TRAINING COSTS did not get voted Joint Favorable out of Insurance and Real Estate Committee this week. However, we are still waiting to hear what's going to happen to <u>HB-5070</u> - AN ACT PROVIDING FUNDING FOR THE FIREFIGHTER'S CANCER RELIEF FUND and <u>HB-5080</u> - AN ACT CONCERNING FUNDING FOR REGIONAL FIRE TRAINING SCHOOLS. Both bills are presently still being considered by the Appropriations Committee. The Committee Bill Deadline for Approps is March 26 and the JF deadline is April 5.

There is still time to submit written testimony for either of these HB 5070 or HB 5080 if you have not done so already. Additional testimony will help to keep the spotlight on these important issues for the Fire Service. Again, we need to make it clear to the members of Appropriations that we feel it makes no sense for Connecticut to bond millions of dollars for much needed fire schools and fail to provide funding to operate them.

Please submit written testimony in Word or PDF format to <u>APPtestimony@cga.ct.gov</u>. The Committee requests that testimony be limited to matters related to the items on the Agenda. All public hearing testimony, written & spoken, is public information. The Committee encourages witnesses to submit a written statement and to condense oral testimony to a summary of that statement. All public hearing testimony, written and spoken, is public information. As such, it will be made available on the CGA website and will be indexed by internet search engines.

Also, the Public Safety and Security Committee will vote later today whether to JFS (Joint Favorable Substitute) <u>SB-278</u> - AN ACT CONCERNING MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS TRAINING AND SUICIDE PREVENTION FOR POLICE OFFICERS (a.k.a. "The PTSD Bill).

We are coordinating plans for Fire Service Day on April 11, 2018. I should have more details and a preliminary schedule of events for that day by next week's update.

I have attached the latest House Bill Status Report.

Sincerely,

Leon Collins

Legislative Representative **The Connecticut State Firefighters Association** 49 Midwood Road Branford, CT 06405 (203) 494-7842 voice and text (203) 481-1446 fax collins@csfa.org email http://csfa.org website