

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 1830

H.P. 1225

House of Representatives, April 30, 2025

Resolve, to Establish a Pilot Program to Protect Firefighters from Cancer

Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "R B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative BAGSHAW of Windham.
Cosponsored by Senator TALBOT ROSS of Cumberland and
Representatives: HEPLER of Woolwich, LANCE of Paris, SUPICA of Bangor, Senators:
DUSON of Cumberland, HICKMAN of Kennebec, RAFFERTY of York, RENY of Lincoln,
TEPLER of Sagadahoc.

1 **Sec. 1. Pilot program established. Resolved:** That the Commissioner of Public
2 Safety shall establish the firefighter early detection cancer screening pilot program.

3 1. All active and retired firefighters must be offered a comprehensive early detection
4 cancer screening that consists of any combination of one or more of the following tests: a
5 blood test, an ultrasound of vital organs and a computed tomography, or CT, scan of the
6 lungs. As used in this resolve, "firefighter" means a municipal firefighter or volunteer
7 firefighter, as defined in the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 30-A, section 3151, subsections
8 2 and 4, respectively.

9 2. Vendors with the ability to conduct the following tests must be preferred:

10 A. A multi-cancer blood test that detects signals from as many cancer types as possible,
11 including those that are commonly unscreened; and

12 B. An echocardiogram, a carotid doppler and an ultrasound diagnostic that screens, at
13 minimum, abdominal aorta, thyroid, liver, gallbladder, spleen, bladder, kidney,
14 prostate, testicles and exterior pelvis for females.

15 **Sec. 2. Committee. Resolved:** That, within 90 days of the effective date of this
16 resolve, a committee consisting of representatives from an association of professional
17 firefighters, an association of fire chiefs and the Department of Public Safety, with
18 oversight from the Commissioner of Public Safety or the commissioner's designee, shall
19 present to the commissioner and the Governor the committee's initial plan to administer the
20 pilot program, which must consist of:

21 1. Known vendors who can provide appropriate screenings;

22 2. Location and time to provide screenings; and

23 3. Administrative requirements to:

24 A. Notify firefighters of the pilot program;

25 B. Register and screen firefighters;

26 C. Document findings; and

27 D. Provide ongoing recommendations to the Legislature.

28 **Sec. 3. Participation optional. Resolved:** That firefighter participation in cancer
29 screenings is optional and a firefighter is eligible to receive any combination of offered
30 screenings.

31 **Sec. 4. Term. Resolved:** That the term of the pilot program must be not more than
32 24 months from the date of a plan approval by the Governor and the Commissioner of
33 Public Safety, unless the Governor grants a request for an extension.

34 **Sec. 5. Self-funded screenings. Resolved:** That an active or retired firefighter
35 who self-funds any portion of the screenings provided by the pilot program after January
36 1, 2025 may submit for reimbursement of such costs, not to exceed \$1,300 from the pilot
37 program. The firefighter must submit required documentation for reimbursement.

38 **Sec. 6. Committee findings. Resolved:** That the committee under section 2 shall
39 present the committee's findings to the Governor and the joint standing committee of the
40 Legislature having jurisdiction over public safety matters after 12 months and again after

1 24 months of the pilot program's administration. These findings must include the number
2 of firefighters screened; tests conducted; results of tests; follow-up testing to confirm the
3 results of the screening; costs of follow-up tests and method of payment, including the
4 firefighters' share of the costs; and any recommendations for the pilot program. All
5 providers of services shall ensure the name and any other personally identifiable
6 information of the individual is removed prior to providing results to the committee.

7 **SUMMARY**

8 This resolve requires the Commissioner of Public Safety to establish the firefighter
9 early detection cancer screening pilot program.