

New Jersey State Exempt Firemen's Association

Legislative Report January 18, 2019

Prepared by: William J. Smith;
(732) 236-3207
wsmithfdrs@aol.com

NJ Fire Safety Commission

Contact: Vice Chairman: Kevin Krushinski
(732)406-4376 sayreville121@aol.com

All meetings are scheduled to start at 10AM

Fire Safety Commission Meeting Schedule

1/15/2020 Middlesex County Fire Academy

NJ Legislature

Senate Committees – 19
Assembly Committees - 27

Chair Senate Law & Public Safety

Senator Linda R Greenstein

Contact: (609)395-9911

No scheduled meetings for January 16, 2020

Chair Homeland Security & State Preparedness

Assemblywoman Valerie Vainieri Huttle

Contact: Chief of Staff Alexandra Acosta
(201)541-1118 aacosta@njleg.org
Press Secretary: Jessica Schwartz
(201)541-1118 jschwartz@njleg.org

No scheduled meeting for January 16, 2020

National Volunteer Fire Council

Contact: Legislative Chair: Dave Finger
(888)275-6832 dfinger@nvfc.org

On December 20th, President Trump signed into law appropriations legislation funding the federal government through the end of FY 2020.

On December 5th the Volunteer First Responder Housing Act (S.2982) was introduced. This makes it possible for more volunteer emergency responders to participate in the Single Family Housing Guaranteed Loan Programs through the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

On November 19th The SECURE Act (H.R.1994), which passed the House of Representative in Moy, makes a number of changes to retirement tax law and reinstates the Volunteer Responder Incentive Protection Act for the 2020 tax year. This failed to pass in the Senate.

On November 13th the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation favorably reported the Guaranteeing Equipment Safety for Firefighters Act (S.2525) and the Portable Fuel Container Safety Act (S.1640). Requires the addition of flame mitigation devices to consumer-grade portable fuel containers.

On November 5th the NVFC Board adopted resolutions endorsing the Guaranteeing Equipment Safety for Firefighters Act (S.2525) and the Don't Break Up the T Band Act (H.R.451 / S.2748).

Congressional Fire Service Institute

Contact: Director of Government Affairs: Michaela Campbell
(202)371-1277 mcampbell@cfsi.org

H.R.4685 was introduced by Representative Bill Pascrell (NJ-9) on October 15, 2019. This has been referred to the House Ways and Means Committee. This is legislation to provide incentives to install fire sprinkler systems in high-rise buildings.

New Jersey Legislative Session Updates – NJ State Firemen's Association / Kenilworth, NJ

Contact: Legislative Committee Chairman Brian E. Martone
(201)370-3833 brianm@njsfa.com

As per the report dated January 16, 2020 the total of all tracked bills are 257.

Fire & Emergency Services (169)
Fire Districts (32)
Pensions (56)

On January 13th, the Governor signed the following bills. S1966, Increases death benefit of active members of PFRS and SPRS to 50 percent of final compensation for surviving child or children. S2898 Establishes "New Jersey Fire and EMS Crisis Intervention Services. A5263 Requires four year public institutions of higher education to award college credits to firefighters for certain courses completed at county fire academies.

The total bills introduced for the 2018-2019 sessions were 11,457. The Governor signed 558 bills into law.

The Next Quorum session for both the Assembly and Senate are scheduled for January 27th.

The next Meeting of the Executive Committee of the New Jersey State Firemen's Associations will be held on Saturday, February 22 at 9AM

NJSFA Office
1711 Route 34 South
Wall Township, NJ 07727

Attached Reports:

New Jersey Legislative Calendar (1/16/20)
New Jersey Legislative Digest (1/14/20)
New Jersey Legislative Date of Action Report (1/13/20)
NJ State Firemen's Association Legislative Committee (1/16/20)
219th New Jersey Legislature Roster