

2022 -- H 8133

LC005734

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

A N A C T

RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL

Introduced By: Representatives Speakman, Casimiro, Solomon, Fogarty, Hull, Fenton-Fung, Carson, Cortvriend, Donovan, and Casey

Date Introduced: April 13, 2022

Referred To: House Environment and Natural Resources

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 23-28.2 of the General Laws entitled "Office of State Fire Marshal"

2 is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **23-28.2-30. Task force to study PFAS in firefighter gear.**

4 (a) There shall be established a task force to study the presence of PFAS in firefighter gear.

5 This task force at a minimum shall include:

6 (1) The director of the department of environmental management, or designee;

7 (2) The director of the department of health, or designee;

8 (3) The director of the emergency management agency, or designee;

9 (4) The president of the executive board of the Rhode Island Association of Fire Chiefs, or  
10 designee; and

11 (5) The director of the Rhode Island State Association of Fire Fighters, or designee.

12 (b) The task force shall study the issue of PFAS in firefighter gear, monitor the  
13 development of alternatives to this gear, develop a timeline for replacing gear statewide, and  
14 develop a strategy for funding the replacement gear from state or federal funds.

15 (c) The task force shall advise the general assembly and the governor of the task force's  
16 findings and strategy no later than January 1, 2024.

17 (d) The provisions of this section shall sunset on July 1, 2024.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

=====  
LC005734  
=====

EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL

\*\*\*

- 1           This act would create a new task force to study the issue of PFAS in firefighter gear, to
- 2 monitor the development of alternatives to this gear, develop a timeline for replacing gear statewide
- 3 and to develop a strategy for funding the replacement gear from state or federal funds.
- 4           This act would take effect upon passage.

=====  
LC005734  
=====