



## Tennessee Fire Service Coalition Bill Report

### 2020 Legislative Session

#### SB29/HB384 **GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION: Expands first responder benefits to include emergency medical technicians.**

*Sponsors:* Sen. Haile, Ferrell , Rep. Weaver, Terri  
*Summary:* Includes emergency medical technicians in the compensation for injury or death suffering during employment.  
*Senate Status:* 03/18/19 - Senate passed.  
*House Status:* 06/18/20 - House passed.  
*Executive Status:* 07/17/20 - Enacted as Public Chapter 0776 effective July 15, 2020.

#### SB67/HB1420 **RETAIL TRADE: Prohibits certain flame retardants in juvenile products and upholstered furniture.**

*Sponsors:* Sen. Gilmore, Brenda , Rep. Towns Jr., Joe  
*Summary:* Prohibits a person, including a manufacturer, from selling or distributing any new, not previously owned juvenile products, mattresses, or upholstered furniture that contains covered flame-retardant chemicals at levels above 1,000 parts per million. Also prohibits a custom upholsterer from repairing or reupholstering furniture using components that contain covered flame-retardant chemicals at levels above 1,000 parts per million. Requires the department of agriculture to enforce and ensure compliance with this part. Specifies fines for violations of this section.  
*Senate Status:* 01/30/19 - Referred to Senate Commerce & Labor Committee.  
*House Status:* 03/11/20 - Taken off notice in House Consumer Subcommittee.

#### SB200/HB780 **WORKERS COMPENSATION: Creates presumption that firefighters with PTSD are eligible for workers' compensation.**

*Sponsors:* Sen. Briggs, Richard , Rep. Ramsey, Bob  
*Summary:* Creates presumption that, for purposes of workers' compensation, firefighter or emergency medical services personnel diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) sustained the injury in the line of duty in the absence of evidence that the PTSD was caused by other risk factors or exposure.  
*Senate Status:* 02/01/19 - Referred to Senate Commerce & Labor Committee.  
*House Status:* 02/11/19 - Referred to House Employee Affairs Subcommittee.

#### SB386/HB335 **MEDIA & PUBLISHING: Designates 911 calls and recordings as confidential.**

*Sponsors:* Sen. Reeves, Shane , Rep. Tillis, Rick  
*Summary:* Designates 911 calls, transmissions, and recordings of an emergency communications district and emergency communications board as confidential and specifies that they may be used only for public safety purposes, law enforcement, fire, medical, rescue, dispatching, or other emergency services. Permits a 911 call, transmission, or recording to be released to another party with the written consent of the caller whose voice is captured on the call, transmission, or recording.  
*Senate Status:* 02/06/19 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.  
*House Status:* 03/27/19 - Taken off notice in House Public Service & Employee Subcommittee.

#### SB422/HB493 **CRIMINAL LAW: Carrying of handguns by firefighters and emergency medical technicians.**

*Sponsors:* Sen. Hensley, Joey , Rep. Doggett, Clay  
*Summary:* Allows firefighters and emergency medical technicians to carry handguns while engaged in official duties if pursuant to a written directive by the executive supervisor of the organization to which the person is attached or employed.  
*Senate Status:* 02/06/19 - Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee.  
*House Status:* 02/04/19 - Withdrawn in House.

#### SB438/HB519 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Tennessee Firefighter Cancer Act.**

*Sponsors:* Sen. Bell, Mike , Rep. Hill, Timothy  
*Summary:* Establishes the Tennessee Firefighter Cancer Act. Creates rebuttable presumption that a firefighter's cancer that causes a disabling health condition is a result of the firefighter's duties under certain criteria. Criteria consists of being exposed to heat or fumes, completing five or more years in service, and unable to perform duties as a result of cancer. Allows firefighter to receive the benefit of the presumption for four months for each full year of classified service but is limited to a maximum of 120 months following termination. Permits an employer to require a firefighter to submit to a pre-employment and annual medical examination that screens for cancer.  
*Senate Status:* 04/09/19 - Taken off notice in Senate Commerce & Labor Committee.  
*House Status:* 04/10/19 - Taken off notice in House Local Committee.

#### SB619/HB800 **CRIMINAL LAW: Carrying of handgun by firefighter or emergency medical technician.**

*Sponsors:* Sen. Hensley, Joey , Rep. Doggett, Clay  
*Summary:* Permits any person employed in emergency management or as a firefighter or emergency medical technician to carry a handgun while engaged in the performance of the person's official duties. Requires such person to successfully complete a firearm training program of at least eight hours duration on an annual basis.  
*Senate Status:* 02/07/19 - Referred to Senate Judiciary Committee.  
*House Status:* 03/13/19 - Taken off notice in House Constitutional Protections & Sentencing Subcommittee.

#### SB718/HB855 **ENVIRONMENT & NATURE: Resolution of county and city fire code conflicts.**

*Sponsors:* Sen. Gardenhire, Todd , Rep. Carter, Mike  
*Summary:* Extends the time allotted for the state fire marshal to resolve conflicts between a city's and a county's building or fire code when a county building is located within a city to 15 calendar days. Broadly captioned.  
*Senate Status:* 04/09/19 - Taken off notice in Senate Commerce & Labor Committee.  
*House Status:* 02/07/19 - Caption bill held on House clerk's desk.

#### SB851/HB298 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Volunteer fire departments - hiring of two additional firefighters.**

*Sponsors:* Sen. Crowe, Rusty , Rep. Hill, Matthew  
*Summary:* Authorizes county governments to hire up to two firefighters to staff each volunteer fire department station in the county and requires the state to pay for the health and retirement benefits for firefighters employed under this bill.  
*Senate Status:* 02/11/19 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.  
*House Status:* 02/05/19 - Referred to House Public Service & Employee Subcommittee.  
*Executive Status:* 03/07/19 - Set for Joint Council on Pensions and Insurance 03/11/19.

#### SB1085/HB1027 **PUBLIC EMPLOYEES: Pay supplement for firefighters.**

*Sponsors:* Sen. Dickerson, Steven , Rep. Lynn, Susan

*Summary:* Increases to \$700 the pay supplement for firefighters who complete a rank appropriate, in-service training course of at least 40 hours duration at a school established by the firefighter commission.

*Senate Status:* 02/11/19 - Referred to Senate Commerce & Labor Committee.

*House Status:* 02/13/19 - Referred to House Cities & Counties Subcommittee.

**SB1125/HB1127 ENVIRONMENT & NATURE: Report on sealed battery smoke alarms in residential buildings.**

*Sponsors:* Sen. Briggs, Richard , Rep. Tillis, Rick

*Summary:* Requires the state fire marshal to submit a report with the commissioner of commerce and insurance on the benefits of using sealed battery smoke alarms in residential buildings located in this state as compared to the use of standard smoke detectors in such buildings.

*Amendment Summary:* House Department & Agencies Subcommittee amendment 1 (015394) deletes and replaces all language after the enacting clause. Requires that in a one, two, or multi-family residential dwelling, smoke alarms that contain a tamper-resistant battery unit designed to allow the smoke alarm to operate continuously for ten years be used to replace existing battery-powered smoke alarms under certain circumstances, including when a change of tenant occurs, a battery-powered smoke alarm is replaced for any reason, a battery-powered smoke alarm lacks any indication of its manufacturing date, and an existing battery-powered smoke alarm fails to respond to tests or otherwise malfunctions. Requires tenants of residential units maintain smoke alarms, check the smoke alarms annually, not remove or otherwise render the smoke alarm inoperable, and notify the owner of the dwelling of any issues with the smoke alarm.

*Senate Status:* 03/12/20 - Set for Senate Commerce & Labor Committee 03/17/20.

*House Status:* 05/27/20 - Taken off notice in House State Committee.

**SB1146/HB1497 ENVIRONMENT & NATURE: Newspaper notice in fireworks seizure cases.**

*Sponsors:* Sen. Akbari, Raumesh , Rep. Kumar, Sabi

*Summary:* Requires the state fire marshal to post notice in a newspaper of general circulation once a week for five, instead of three, consecutive weeks when fireworks are seized in the county in order that the identity of the owner can be determined.

*Senate Status:* 02/11/19 - Referred to Senate Commerce & Labor Committee.

*House Status:* 02/11/19 - Caption bill held on House clerk's desk.

**SB1237/HB623 PUBLIC EMPLOYEES: Permits retirement of police officers after 25 years.**

*Sponsors:* Sen. Pody, Mark , Rep. Hulse, Bud

*Summary:* Permits retirement of police officers who are state retirement system members after 25 years of creditable service, regardless of membership participation in legacy pension, hybrid, or any alternative plan. Officers voluntarily retiring under this provision could be required to pay any insurance coverage otherwise provided to members 100 percent vested in the service retirement plan.

*Amendment Summary:* Senate amendment 1 (005021) establishes that firefighters retiring after 25 years of service are also eligible to receive such benefits. House amendment 2 (006811) deletes and rewrites all language after the enacting clause such that the only substantive change is to establish that firefighters retiring after 25 years of service are also eligible to receive such benefits, and that any incorporated city, town, metropolitan government, or county of this state that is a member of the state retirement system and provides health insurance benefits is exempt from part (c) of this proposed legislation.

*Senate Status:* 04/24/19 - Senate concurred in House amendment 2 (006811).

*House Status:* 04/22/19 - House passed with amendment 2 (006811).

*Executive Status:* 05/15/19 - Enacted as Public Chapter 0362 effective January 1, 2020.

**SB1266/HB80 LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Increases time frame for fire marshal's resolution decision.**

*Sponsors:* Sen. Pody, Mark , Rep. Hulse, Bud

*Summary:* Increases the amount of days a fire marshal has to provide a decision for a conflict between county and city governments regarding a building or fire code issue for a county building located in a city. Adjusts the time from within 10 working days to within 15 working days of receipt of the written appeal. Broadly captioned.

*Senate Status:* 02/11/19 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.

*House Status:* 01/28/19 - Caption bill held on House clerk's desk.

**SB1381/HB744 RETAIL TRADE: Changes the amount of days for an owner to claim seized fireworks.**

*Sponsors:* Sen. Yager, Ken , Rep. Powers, Dennis

*Summary:* Changes the amount of days for an owner to claim seized fireworks from 10 days to 10 business days from the date of publication in newspaper of unidentified fireworks. Broadly captioned.

*Senate Status:* 02/11/19 - Referred to Senate Commerce & Labor Committee.

*House Status:* 02/07/19 - Caption bill held on House clerk's desk.

**SB1395/HB518 PUBLIC EMPLOYEES: Creates program awarding grants to volunteer firefighter departments for purchase of equipment.**

*Sponsors:* Sen. Bell, Mike , Rep. Hill, Timothy

*Summary:* Creates a program managed by the commissioner of commerce and insurance to annually award grants to volunteer fire departments for the purchase of firefighting equipment or to meet local match requirements for federal grants for such purchases.

*Amendment Summary:* Senate amendment 1 (009121) specifies the total amount of grants awarded each year must be equally divided among the three grand divisions of the state instead of dividing the state by county into east, middle, west, northeast, and southwest divisions.

*Senate Status:* 05/01/19 - Senate passed with amendment 1 (009121).

*House Status:* 05/02/19 - House concurred in Senate amendment 1 (009121).

*Executive Status:* 05/28/19 - Enacted as Public Chapter 0497 effective May 24, 2019.

**SB1639/HB2385 PUBLIC EMPLOYEES: Adds volunteer firefighter training compensation.**

*Sponsors:* Sen. Yager, Ken , Rep. Calfee, Kent

*Summary:* Adds volunteer firefighters as eligible recipients of \$800 from the commission on firefighting personnel standards and education upon completion of training totaling at least 40 hours.

*Amendment Summary:* House Local Committee amendment 1 (018162) changes the effective date from July 1, 2020, to October 1, 2020.

*Senate Status:* 01/23/20 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.

*House Status:* 06/16/20 - Set for House Finance, Ways & Means Subcommittee Calendar 2 06/16/20.

**SB1776/HB1856 RETAIL TRADE: Sale of fireworks - novelties and sparkling devices.**

*Sponsors:* Sen. Massey, Becky , Rep. Marsh, Pat

*Summary:* Permits retailers and seasonal retailers to sell novelties and sparkling devices under certain circumstances in every city, town, municipality, and county, including a county with a metropolitan government, in this state. Defines "novelties" to mean party poppers, snappers, deregulated toy smoke devices, snakes, sparklers, and glow worms, as long as the aforementioned items are not regulated as explosives by the United States Department of Transportation.

*Senate Status:* 01/27/20 - Referred to Senate Commerce & Labor Committee.

*House Status:* 01/29/20 - Referred to House Business Subcommittee.

**SB1914/HB1945 PROFESSIONS & LICENSURE: Performing work without a license or required certification.**

*Sponsors:* Sen. Bowling, Janice , Rep. Daniel, Martin

*Summary:* Authorizes a person to perform, without a license or certification, work for which a license or certification is normally required if the recipient of the work acknowledges the person's lack of licensure or certification and waives claims against the person. Requires the agreement to be in writing and specifies that such written agreement include an acknowledgement that the customer releases the person performing the work from all liability that may arise from the person's performance of the work, except for an action brought for intentional, willful, or malicious conduct. This bill applies to several professions including locksmiths, real estate brokers, land surveyors and soil scientists (23 pp.).

*Senate Status:* 01/30/20 - Referred to Senate Commerce & Labor Committee.

*House Status:* 01/31/20 - Referred to House Business Subcommittee.

**SB2129/HB1932 PROFESSIONS & LICENSURE: Retirement and age requirements for emergency medical services personnel.**

*Sponsors:* Sen. Hensley, Joey , Rep. Hulsey, Bud

*Summary:* Allows emergency medical services personnel as well as those holding supervisory or administrative positions within emergency care facilities, hospitals, and other healthcare facilities with a political subdivision to establish mandatory age and retirement age requirements.

*Amendment Summary:* Joint Council on Pensions and Insurance amendment 1 (014586) deletes all language after the enacting clause. Grants eligibility to EMS personnel retiring after 25 years of service to receive benefits computed as an actuarial equivalent of the retirement allowance that would have been payable under a service retirement allowance.

*Senate Status:* 03/12/20 - Set for Senate State & Local Government Committee 03/17/20.

*House Status:* 06/15/20 - Taken off notice in House Finance, Ways & Means Committee.

*Executive Status:* 03/02/20 - Joint Council on Pensions and Insurance released to standing committees with favorable comment after adopting amendment 1 (014586).

**SB2230/HB2476 CRIMINAL LAW: Requires critical incident stress management communication be kept confidential.**

*Sponsors:* Sen. Pody, Mark , Rep. Moody, Debra

*Summary:* Requires communication between a peer supporter, law enforcement officer, firefighter, or emergency medical services personnel participating in crisis incident stress management (CISM) intervention be kept confidential unless otherwise required by law. Protects peer supporters from having to divulge information obtained solely through CISM intervention if peer supporter was designated as a peer supporter by the sheriff, police chief, fire chief, director of emergency medical services, colonel of the Tennessee highway patrol, or director of the Tennessee bureau of investigation prior to the CISM intervention, or if the peer supporter was acting in the capacity of a peer supporter at the time of communication. Broadly captioned.

*Amendment Summary:* House amendment 1 (017795) changes the effective date from July 1, 2020 to October 1, 2020.

*Senate Status:* 06/09/20 - Senate Judiciary Committee deferred to 12/01/20.

*House Status:* 06/03/20 - House passed with amendment 1 (017795), which changes the effective date from July 1, 2020 to October 1, 2020.

**SB2316/HB2617 PROFESSIONS & LICENSURE: Extends time frame for notices to fire protection system contractors of certificate and license expiration.**

*Sponsors:* Sen. Roberts, Kerry , Rep. Reedy, Jay

*Summary:* Increases, from at least 30 days to at least 60 days prior to the expiration, the notice that the department of commerce and insurance must send to inform a fire protection sprinkler systems contractor of the impending expiration of certificate of registration or license. Broadly captioned.

*Senate Status:* 02/10/20 - Referred to Senate Commerce & Labor Committee.

*House Status:* 03/10/20 - Taken off notice in House Business Subcommittee.

**SB2451/HB1944 PROFESSIONS & LICENSURE: Licensing Independence for Future Tennesseans Act.**

*Sponsors:* Sen. Roberts, Kerry , Rep. Daniel, Martin

*Summary:* Enacts the Licensing Independence for Future Tennesseans Act or LIFT Act. Authorizes a licensing authority to issue a license to practice if an applicant meets certain requirements including if the applicant holds a valid license in another state, they held the license in another state for at least one year prior to application, the other state required the application to pass an examination and the applicant does not have a disqualifying criminal history. Establishes other requirements for applicants and licensing authorities.

*Senate Status:* 03/12/20 - Set for Senate Commerce & Labor Committee 03/17/20.

*House Status:* 03/10/20 - Taken off notice in House Business Subcommittee.

**SB2466/HB2821 PUBLIC FINANCE: Appropriations- FY2019 and FY2020.**

*Sponsors:* Sen. Johnson, Jack , Rep. Lamberth, William

*Summary:* Makes appropriations for the fiscal years beginning July 1, 2019, and July 1, 2020.

*Amendment Summary:* House amendment 1 (014600) is the base budget. House amendment 2 (009000) is the stripper amendment and changes the rate of growth from 3.1 percent to 0.25 percent. House amendment 3 (016000) includes legislative initiatives. House amendment 13 (013200) makes a technical correction.

*Senate Status:* 03/19/20 - Senate passed.

*House Status:* 03/19/20 - House passed with amendment 1 (014600), amendment 2 (009000), amendment 3 (016000), and amendment 13 (013200).

*Executive Status:* 04/06/20 - Enacted as Public Chapter 0651 effective July 1, 2020 (103 pages).

**SB2524/HB2457 PUBLIC EMPLOYEES: Firefighter Suicide Prevention Act.**

*Sponsors:* Sen. Briggs, Richard , Rep. Ramsey, Bob

*Summary:* Requires that if a firefighter is diagnosed with PTSD by a mental health professional, then the injury is presumed to have been incurred in the line of duty and is covered under workers' compensation law, unless by the preponderance of evidence shows the PTSD was caused by a non service connection. Applies to any firefighter diagnosed within three years of the fire fighter's final date of employment.

*Senate Status:* 03/12/20 - Set for Senate Commerce & Labor Committee 03/17/20.

*House Status:* 06/02/20 - Taken off notice in House Health Committee.

**SB2543/HB2352 GOVERNMENT REGULATION: Fireworks - certification requirement for flame effect display operators.**

*Sponsors:* Sen. Niceley, Frank , Rep. Miller, Larry

*Summary:* Removes flame effect display operators from operators requiring certification. Increases number of displays an applicant is required to have operated under competent supervision from three to ten displays within the 12-month period preceding the application.

*Amendment Summary:* House Business Subcommittee amendment 1 (016603) deletes all language after the enacting clause so the only substantive changes are: 1) adds proximate pyrotechnic display operators to those eligible for certification as an outdoor firework display operator; 2) defines certification process for a flame effect display operator; 3) removes requirement that applicants have worked under supervision on at least ten displays in each area in which certification is desired, instead requiring outdoor fireworks display operators work on at least three outdoor firework displays in the three years immediately preceding the application, and proximate pyrotechnic display operator and flame effect display operator applicants work on five displays in the three years immediately preceding the application; 4) changes the renewal time for an operator certification from every two to every three years after the date of issuance; and 5) removes requirement of an operator applying for certification renewal to submit three verification of experience forms.

*Senate Status:* 03/12/20 - Set for Senate Commerce & Labor Committee 03/17/20.

*House Status:* 06/03/20 - Taken off notice in House Commerce Committee.

**SB2588/HB2855 PUBLIC EMPLOYEES: Requires the state fire marshal's office post all recognized fire departments on their website.**

*Sponsors:* Sen. Bowling, Janice , Rep. Bricken, Rush

*Summary:* Requires the state fire marshal's office post on its website a list of all recognized fire departments in the state on or before December 1, 2020 to be updated each year. Broadly captioned.

*Senate Status:* 02/10/20 - Referred to Senate State & Local Government Committee.

House Status: 02/10/20 - Caption bill held on House clerk's desk.

**SB2616/HB2750 CRIMINAL LAW: Creates punishment for assault of a public servant.**

Sponsors: Sen. Hensley, Joey , Rep. Kumar, Sabi

Summary: Creates a Class E felony for a person who knowingly or should have knowingly assaulted a public servant while engaged in official duties. Defines public servant as a law enforcement officer, firefighter, medical first responder, paramedic, emergency medical technician, healthcare provider or any other first responder.

Senate Status: 03/12/20 - Set for Senate Judiciary Committee 03/17/20.

House Status: 05/27/20 - Taken off notice in House Criminal Justice Subcommittee.

**SB2691/HB2577 WORKERS COMPENSATION: Workers' Compensation- PTSD incurred in the line of duty.**

Sponsors: Sen. Briggs, Richard , Rep. Ragan, John

Summary: Allows public safety employees diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) within three years of the last active date of their employment to be compensated under the workers' compensation law unless it is proven the PTSD was caused by nonservice-connected risk factors or exposure. Broadens definition of "public safety employee" to include law enforcement officers and 911 dispatchers. Broadly captioned.

Amendment Summary: House Employee Affairs Subcommittee amendment 1 (016786) deletes all the language after the enacting clause making the substantive changes: 1) defines "public safety employee;" and 2) requires all evidence used to determine whether a public safety employee's post-traumatic stress disorder occurred in the line of duty and is compensable under the Workers' Compensation Law be considered.

Senate Status: 03/12/20 - Set for Senate Commerce & Labor Committee 03/17/20.

House Status: 06/04/20 - Taken off notice in House Consumer & Human Resources Committee.

Executive Status: 02/27/20 - Joint Advisory Council on Workers' Compensation released to standing committees without comment.

**SB2765/HB2683 GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION: Vacancy on the commission on firefighting personnel standards and education.**

Sponsors: Sen. Bell, Mike , Rep. Hill, Timothy

Summary: Reduces the time period in which the Tennessee Professional Firefighters Association submits a list of nominees to fill a vacancy on the commission from 21 days to 14 days. Broadly captioned.

Senate Status: 03/12/20 - Set for Senate State & Local Government Committee 03/17/20.

House Status: 02/11/20 - Referred to House Public Service & Employee Subcommittee.

**SB2855/HB2871 ANIMALS & ANIMAL HUSBANDRY: Allows electronic submission of reports required under the Sheep Producers Indemnity Law.**

Sponsors: Sen. Bailey, Paul , Rep. Hill, Timothy

Summary: Allows electronic submission of report. Broadly captioned.

Amendment Summary: House Business Subcommittee amendment 1 (016138) deletes and replaces all language after the enacting clause. Adds that if the use of a building product, building material, or construction practice is approved by the state fire marshal or a national model code than that can be used in statewide construction. Creates certain exemptions.

Senate Status: 06/03/20 - Senate Commerce & Labor Committee deferred to 12/01/20.

House Status: 06/03/20 - Taken off notice in House Commerce Committee.

**SB2863/HB1819 WORKERS COMPENSATION: Expands qualifications for firefighters to receive worker's compensation.**

Sponsors: Sen. Bailey, Paul , Rep. Hicks, Gary

Summary: Expands compensation benefits to firefighter employed after July 1, 2019. Requires firefighters obtain a physical medical examination after July 1, 2019 to qualify for worker's compensation. Qualification for compensation specifies no evidence of Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma, colon, skin, or multiple myeloma cancer be present at time of examination.

Senate Status: 03/05/20 - Senate passed.

House Status: 06/15/20 - House passed.

Executive Status: 07/02/20 - Enacted as Public Chapter 0754 effective June 22, 2020.

**SB2867/HB2447 PROPERTY & HOUSING: Building or fire code issue involving a county building located within a city.**

Sponsors: Sen. Bailey, Paul , Rep. Vaughan, Kevin

Summary: Extends, from 10 to 20 days, the period in which the state fire marshal must rule on an appeal involving a conflict between a city and county over a building or fire code issue involving a county building located within a city. Broadly captioned.

Senate Status: 03/12/20 - Set for Senate Commerce & Labor Committee 03/17/20.

House Status: 03/10/20 - Taken off notice in House Property & Planning Subcommittee.

**SB2884/HB2303 CRIMINAL LAW: Knowingly damaging fire equipment by means of fire or explosion.**

Sponsors: Sen. Bailey, Paul , Rep. Sherrell, Paul

Summary: Punishes the offense of knowingly damaging fire equipment by means of fire or explosion as arson as a Class C felony. Defines "fire equipment" as vehicles, tools, or devices used by a fire department to extinguish fires.

Amendment Summary: Senate amendment 1 (015162) rewrites this bill to punish knowingly damaging farm equipment by means of fire or explosion as arson, a Class C felony. This amendment defines farm equipment as vehicles, tools, devices, or supplies used in plowing, planting, harvesting, raising, or processing of farm products at a farm. House amendment 2 (018003) incorporates the changes made by Senate Amendment #1 but redefines "farm equipment," for purposes of this bill, to mean any farm tractor, farm implement designed to be operated with a farm tractor, and motorized farm machinery used in the commercial production of farm products or nursery stock. This amendment also changes this bill's effective date from July 1, 2020, to October 1, 2020.

Senate Status: 06/17/20 - Senate concurred in House amendment 2 (018003).

House Status: 06/16/20 - House passed with amendment 2 (018003).

Executive Status: 07/17/20 - Enacted as Public Chapter 0810 effective July 15, 2020.

**SB2930/HB2927 LOCAL GOVERNMENT: Haywood County - exemption from wheel tax for member of volunteer fire department.**

Sponsors: Sen. Gresham, Dolores , Rep. Hurt, Chris

Summary: Local bill for Haywood County that exempts one vehicle owned by an active member of a volunteer fire department of a volunteer local rescue squad from the local wheel tax. Amends Chapter 324 of the Private Acts of 1961.

Senate Status: 06/17/20 - Senate passed.

House Status: 06/15/20 - House passed.

Executive Status: 07/17/20 - Enacted as Private Chapter 55 effective July 15, 2020.

**HB2043 PUBLIC EMPLOYEES: Corrections officers eligible for early service retirement.**

Sponsors: Rep. Sparks, Mike

Summary: Adds corrections officers who are members of the state retirement system to be eligible for early service retirement after completing 25 years of commendable service.

House Status: 02/04/20 - Referred to House Public Service & Employee Subcommittee.

Executive Status: 02/20/20 - Joint Council on Pensions and Insurance released to standing committees with unfavorable comment.