

1 AN ACT concerning government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the  
5 Firefighter Training Leave of Absence Act.

6 Section 5. Definitions. As used in this Act:

7 "Agency" means any branch, department, board, committee,  
8 or commission of State government. "Agency" does not include a  
9 unit of local government, school district, or board of  
10 election commissioners.

11 "State employee" means a permanent, full-time employee who  
12 has been employed by an agency for a period of 6 months or more  
13 and is a member of any fire department or fire protection  
14 district recognized by the State Fire Marshal.

15 Section 10. Leave of absence for firefighter training.

16 (a) A State employee shall be granted leave from his or her  
17 State employment for firefighter training as follows:

18 (1) on one occasion, for up to 200 hours, to  
19 participate in training necessary to obtain Basic  
20 Operations Firefighter certification from the State Fire  
21 Marshal while attending a State Fire Marshal-approved fire  
22 academy; and

1           (2) special or advanced training annually, not to  
2           exceed 80 hours, after obtaining Basic Operations  
3           Firefighter certification from the State Fire Marshal for  
4           courses that will lead to additional certification by the  
5           State Fire Marshal.

6           (b) The maximum leaves of absence under this Act for any  
7           calendar year may not exceed 200 hours. During a leave of  
8           absence, the employee's seniority and other benefits shall  
9           continue to accrue.

10          (c) During a leave of absence for basic, special, or  
11          advanced training, the State employee shall continue to  
12          receive his or her regular compensation as a State employee.  
13          If the State employee receives compensation for basic,  
14          special, or advanced training, the State employee shall  
15          receive his or her regular compensation as a State employee  
16          minus the amount of his or her compensation for basic,  
17          special, or advanced training.

18          (d) A State employee who wishes to obtain a leave of  
19          absence under this Act shall request in advance for the leave  
20          of absence and may take the leave of absence only after  
21          obtaining approval from the State employee's agency. A leave  
22          of absence may not be denied to a State employee who requests  
23          leave under this Section and who has provided notification of  
24          the leave at least 14 calendar days prior to the requested  
25          leave date. A State employee who provides less than 14  
26          calendar days' notice of the leave may be denied leave if the

1 State employee's agency demonstrates that the leave would  
2 create a health or safety hazard in the workplace. If the leave  
3 is denied, written notification must be provided to the  
4 employee within 24 hours after the employee's request for  
5 leave. Once the leave has been approved, approval for the  
6 leave may not be rescinded.

7 Section 15. Rules. The Department of Central Management  
8 Services and the Comptroller shall adopt joint rules to  
9 develop procedures for the implementation of this Act.