

March 19, 2007

S 990. WORKERS' COMP/FIREFIGHTER OCCUPAT'AL DISEASE. Filed 3/19/07. *TO CREATE A PRESUMPTION THAT CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES, RESPIRATORY DISEASE, HYPERTENSION OR HEART DISEASE, AND CERTAIN CANCERS ARE OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES FOR FIREFIGHTERS EMPLOYED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS THAT ARE COVERED BY THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT.* To be summarized in tomorrow's *Daily Bulletin*.

Intro. by Berger of Franklin.

GS 97

March 20, 2007

S 990. WORKERS' COMP/FIREFIGHTER OCCUPAT'AL DISEASE. Filed 3/19/07. *TO CREATE A PRESUMPTION THAT CERTAIN INFECTIOUS DISEASES, RESPIRATORY DISEASE, HYPERTENSION OR HEART DISEASE, AND CERTAIN CANCERS ARE OCCUPATIONAL DISEASES FOR FIREFIGHTERS EMPLOYED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENTS THAT ARE COVERED BY THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION ACT.*

Enacts new GS 97-53.1 and GS 97-53.2 creating a presumption that death or impairment caused by named infectious diseases, respiratory diseases, hypertension or heart disease, and named cancers is presumed to be an occupational disease suffered in the line of duty, and is covered under the workers' compensation act for firefighters employed by a local unit of government. Requires firefighters to undergo any immunizations that exist for the prevention of communicable disease for which a presumption exists and failure to do so will disqualify the firefighter from the presumption. Establishes procedure for occupational exposure documentation for infectious diseases based on when the exposure took place and provides that the presumption for infectious diseases will not be effective until six months following an employer requested physical exam unless exposure during the six-month period can be documented. Also provides that the presumption will apply only if the firefighter has undergone a pre-employment physical exam if it is requested by the employer and requires a physical exam of those making a claim relying on a presumption, if it is requested by the employer.

Intro. by Berger of Franklin.

GS 97