

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2025

**H.B. 97**  
**Feb 11, 2025**  
**HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK**

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HOUSE BILL DRH10023-MRap-33

Short Title: Support Firefighters Fighting Cancer. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Scott.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT INCLUDING DEATH DUE TO STOMACH CANCER IN THE LIST OF  
3 FIREFIGHTER DEATHS MEETING THE DEFINITION OF KILLED IN THE LINE OF  
4 DUTY UNDER THE PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYEES' DEATH BENEFITS ACT.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 143-166.2(6) reads as rewritten:

7 "(6) Killed in the line of duty. – This term shall apply to all of the following deaths:

8 ...

9 e. When the death of a firefighter occurs as a direct and proximate result  
10 of any of the following cancers that are occupationally related to  
11 firefighting, that firefighter is presumed to have been killed in the line  
12 of duty:

- 13 1. Mesothelioma.
- 14 2. Testicular cancer.
- 15 3. Cancer of the small intestine.
- 16 4. Esophageal cancer.
- 17 5. Oral cavity cancer.
- 18 6. Pharynx cancer.
- 19 7. Cancer of the stomach, also known as gastric cancer."

20 **SECTION 2.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of  
21 State Treasurer the sum of five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) in recurring funds for each  
22 year of the 2025-2027 fiscal biennium to be used for benefits payable under the Public Safety  
23 Employees' Death Benefits Act related to the implementation of this act.

24 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective July 1, 2025, and applies to qualifying deaths  
25 occurring on or after that date.

