

# News

---

*. . . from the Illinois House of Representatives*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
September 4, 2007

FOR MORE INFORMATION:  
State Rep. John Bradley  
Marion: (618) 997-9697

## **Bradley Introduces Shib's Law to Protect Firefighters in Line of Duty**

*Legislation to Honor Fallen Sesser Firefighter*

**SPRINGFIELD** – State Rep. John Bradley, D-Marion, announced Tuesday that he has introduced legislation that will provide emergency personnel working alongside roadways in Illinois with improved safeguards. The measure was drafted in response to an accident that claimed the life of Sesser firefighter James “Shib” Miller in late July.

“We too often forget that the safety of our communities is only possible because of the selfless actions of emergency workers who devote their lives to protecting our friends and families,” Bradley said. “I believe we owe it to them to make sure that their work environment is exactly what they need it to be in order to perform their jobs effectively and safely.”

Under Bradley’s House Bill 4134, emergency personnel, including firefighters, would be able to close any roadway necessary while they are working in emergency situations.

Shib’s law was developed by firefighters from Sesser to honor fellow firefighter James “Shib” Miller who was killed while responding to an emergency along Interstate 57 when a bus driver ran through the orange safety cones set up by emergency workers and struck both him and his fire engine. Had the legislation been in place at the time, emergency personnel would have had the power to completely block off that section of road from traffic, ensuring their own safety and saving Miller’s life.

“We must not let another emergency worker die because we failed to provide these heroes with the tools and resources they need to do their job in a safe environment,” Bradley added. “If we can prevent even just one other life from being taken so tragically, then we have done something truly important by passing this legislation.”

For more information on the proposed Shib’s, contact Bradley’s constituent service office at (618) 997-9697. Bradley represents Franklin and Williamson counties and Hamilton County in the Illinois House of Representatives.

###