

## ***Pro-active lobbying to protect the rights and interests of our members***

### **IAFPD ADVOCATED BILLS**

**Public Act 100-0837** - Amends the Governmental Account Audit Act to allow units of local government to retain the use of cash basis and modified cash basis accounting systems rather than accrual accounting. *Effective 8/13/18.*

**Public Act 100-0904** - Amends the Pension Code to eliminate a separate and duplicative 8 hour annual ethics training requirement for Article 4 (firefighter) pension fund trustees. *Effective 8/17/18.*

**Public Act 100-0973** - Amends the Volunteer Emergency Worker Job Protection Act which protects volunteer firefighters from being disciplined or terminated for responding to calls while working in their regular employment. Defines a "volunteer emergency worker" to be a person who meets the definition of a "volunteer" under U.S. Department of Labor regulations and rulings. This bill overcomes a court decision which found a volunteer who received compensation not to be entitled to the protection of the Act. *Effective 8/19/18.*

**Senate Bill 2629 - Vetoed.** This bill would have authorized the IAFPD to provide the training required by the Open Meetings Act to trustees of fire protection districts as an alternative to the now required on-line training through the Illinois Attorney General's website.

### **OTHER LEGISLATION OF NOTE**

#### **Public Act 100-0593**

Corrects legislation adopted in 2017 which removed "community integrated living arrangements" (group homes) from the priority inspection procedure of the Office of the State Fire Marshal and restored such facilities to a priority status thus relieving local fire protection district departments from demands for inspections that many local departments were not prepared to provide. *Effective 6/22/18.*

#### **Public Act 100-0600**

Amends the Fire Protection Training Act to make various technical changes regarding the administration of the Act and the reimbursement of local fire agencies who meet the requirements of the Act for the training of fire personnel. *Effective 1/1/19.*

#### **Public Act 100-0673**

Amends the Higher Education Student Assistance Act to provide that a child of a disabled firefighter need not be born, legally adopted, or in the legal custody of the firefighter before the disabling injury occurs in order to be eligible for the benefits of the Act. *Effective 8/3/18.*

#### **Public Act 100-0727**

Amends the Vehicle Code to provide that the prohibition against use of an electronic communications device while driving does not apply to a first responder, including volunteer first responders, while operating his or her own personal motor vehicle using an electronic communication device for the sole purpose of receiving information about an emergency situation while en route to performing his or her official duties." *Effective 8/3/18.*

#### **Public Act 100-0856**

Allows (but does not require) units of local government to use an "electronic notification delivery system" to provide notification to interested parties of a local government's action. Sets requirements for the use of such a system. *Effective 1/1/19.*

#### **Public Act 100-0895**

Creates the Government Severance Pay Act which limits the amount of severance pay that may be included in an employment contract and prohibits the granting of severance pay when the officer, agent, employee, or contractor of a unit of government has been terminated for misconduct by the unit of government. "Misconduct" is defined by the Act. *Effective 1/1/19.*

#### **Public Act 100-0900**

Establishes "First Responder Mental Health Day" to be observed on the third Friday in May of each year to honor firefighters, police officers, and other first responders "who have lost their lives due to and suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, and other mental health issues." *Effective 1/1/19.*

#### **Public Act 100-0968**

Amends the Local Government Professional Services Act which governs the selection and hiring of architects and engineers by units of local government, including fire protection districts, to allow a waiver of the selection requirements of the Act if the services involved are expected to cost less than \$40,000 (previously \$25,000) and provides for this figure to be adjusted annually by the consumer price index. *Effective 1/1/19.*

#### **Public Act 100-1040**

Amends the Local Records Act to require disclosure of information in connection with a severance agreement entered into by a unit of local government with an employee or contractor found to have engaged in sexual discrimination or harassment. *Effective 8/23/18.*

#### **Public Act 100-1072**

Adds Sections 15c to the Fire Protection District Act to allow a home rule municipality which provides fire service to at least 80% of the territory in the municipality to disconnect that portion of the municipality which is located in a fire protection district by petitioning the circuit court. The disconnection cannot make the district noncontiguous or impair the ability of the district to serve the territory remaining in the district by loss of assessed value. Further, adds Section 15d to the Fire Protection District Act to require a municipality seeking to disconnect territory from a fire protection district to perform an "economic impact analysis" concerning the effect of the disconnection both within the municipality and the district. Sets out the requirements for the analysis. Requires service of the report on the board of trustees of the district. A disconnection is not effective unless service of the report is certified to the clerk of the court where the disconnection proceeding is pending. Disconnections take effect on the January 1st following the entry of an order of disconnection. *Effective 1/1/19.*