

May 6th, 2025

Chair Novotny, Chair Moller, Chair Latz, and members of the Public Safety and Judiciary Conference Committee:

On behalf of the Minnesota Fire Association Coalition (MNFAC), we are writing to you in support of policy language related to line of duty death benefits for firefighters contained in HF2432 First Unofficial Engrossment. MNFAC is comprised of the Minnesota State Fire Chiefs Association, the Minnesota State Fire Department Association, the Minnesota Chapter of the International Association of Arson Investigators, and the Fire Marshals Association of Minnesota.

We support the language in HF2432 UE1 in Article 2, Section 13 to include paid on-call and part-time firefighters within line of duty death benefits that was included in the Senate's omnibus bill.

Previously, the law did not specify that part-time and paid on-call firefighters, newly defined in the 2024 omnibus pensions bill in Minn. Stat. 2022, section 424A.02, subdivision 9, are eligible for these benefits despite facing the same risks as other firefighters. This provision would clarify their eligibility for these benefits.

We appreciate your consideration to support the firefighters who serve our communities. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Chief BJ Jungmann Legislative Chair, MNFAC legislative@msfca.org