

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

**FILE NUMBER:** H.F. 382

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**Version:** As introduced

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**Subject:** Seasonal firefighters

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### Overview

Under current law, seasonal firefighters employed by the department of natural resources are treated as temporary emergency employees, which means that they cannot collect unemployment benefits based on the work they do for the state. This bill would generally provide for this group of firefighters to be hired and to be eligible for unemployment benefits.

### Section

- 1 **Seasonal employees.** Requires the commissioner of the department of natural resources to maintain a trained force of firefighters to handle Minnesota's fire season. Provides that a firefighter hired under this section is not a temporary emergency employee for the purposes of unemployment insurance law or existing limitations on the pay of temporary emergency employees.
- 2 **Noncovered employment.** Excludes firefighters hired under section 1 from the unemployment insurance definition of "noncovered employment." This means that work done in this capacity would count toward an applicant's eligibility for unemployment benefits.