

CHAPTER 478

AN ACT mandating access to cancer screenings for firefighters enrolled in the State Health Benefits Program and supplementing P.L.1961, c.49.

BE IT ENACTED *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:*

C.52:14-17.29ii Full-time firefighters to be screened for cancer.

1. a. A firefighter employed as a full-time paid employee of a fire department or unit of this State or a political subdivision of this State shall be provided a cancer screening examination conducted by a physician not less than three years after the start of the firefighter's employment as a firefighter and every three years thereafter during the course of the firefighter's employment. The examination shall include screening for, at a minimum and when applicable, the following cancers:

- (1) colon;
- (2) lung;
- (3) bladder;
- (4) oral;
- (5) thyroid;
- (6) skin;
- (7) blood;
- (8) breast;
- (9) cervical
- (10) testicular; and
- (11) prostate.

b. Subsection a. of this section shall apply only to a firefighter enrolled in the State Health Benefits Program as occupational coverage. For the purpose of this section, employment as a full-time paid employee of a fire department or unit of this State or a political subdivision of this State shall be a pre-existing condition.

2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2023.

Approved January 18, 2022.