

ASSEMBLY, No. 2642

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JANUARY 23, 1997

By Assemblymen ROMANO and GARCIA

1 AN ACT exempting certain emergency volunteers from the 7-day
2 waiting period for workers' compensation and amending R.S.34:15-
3 14 and R.S.34:15-75.

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

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8 1. R.S.34:15-14 is amended to read as follows:

9 34:15-14. **[No]** Except as provided pursuant to R.S.34:15-75, no
10 compensation other than medical aid shall accrue and be payable until
11 the employee has been disabled 7 days, whether the days of disability
12 immediately follow the accident, or whether they be consecutive or
13 not. These days shall be termed the waiting period. The day that the
14 employee is unable to continue at work by reason of his accident,
15 whether it be the day of the accident or later, shall count as one whole
16 day of the waiting period. Should the total period of disability extend
17 beyond 7 days, additional compensation shall at once become payable
18 covering the above prescribed waiting period.

19 (cf: P.L.1966, c.126, s.3)

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21 2. R.S.34:15-75 is amended to read as follows:

22 34:15-75. Compensation for injury and death, either or both, of any
23 volunteer fireman, county fire marshal, assistant county fire marshal,
24 volunteer first aid or rescue squad worker, volunteer driver of any
25 municipally-owned or operated ambulance, forest fire warden or forest
26 fire fighter employed by the State of New Jersey, member of a board
27 of education, special reserve or auxiliary policeman doing volunteer
28 public police duty under the control or supervision of any commission,
29 council or any other governing body of any municipality, or emergency
30 management volunteer doing emergency management service, shall
31 **[be]** :

32 a. Be based upon a weekly salary or compensation conclusively
33 presumed to be received by such person in an amount sufficient to
34 entitle him, or, in the event of his death, his dependents, to receive the

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 maximum compensation by this chapter authorized; and
2 b. Not be subject to the seven day waiting period provided in to
3 R.S.34:15-14.
4 (cf: P.L.1995, c.383, s.3)

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6 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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11 This bill exempts certain volunteer firefighters, first aid or rescue
12 squad workers, and other specified emergency volunteers from the
13 seven-day waiting period for workers' compensation imposed on other
14 injured workers by R.S.34:15-14. Under the current law, no worker,
15 including an emergency volunteer, may receive compensation for an
16 injury unless the employee is disabled for more than seven days, and
17 compensation becomes payable for the first seven days only if the
18 period of disability extends beyond seven days. The bill would permit
19 the payment of compensation for injuries for emergency volunteers
20 even if the period of disability is seven days or less.

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25 Exempts emergency volunteers from the 7-day waiting period for
26 workers' compensation.