

SENATE, No. 2056

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED MAY 8, 1997

By Senator CAFIERO

1 AN ACT concerning certain police, fire and emergency services and
2 supplementing Title 40A of the New Jersey Statutes.

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

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7 1. Whenever a law enforcement officer, firefighter, emergency
8 medical technician or paramedic employed by a municipality, county,
9 fire district or the State is appointed to or training for appointment to
10 a State, county, municipal or regional urban search and rescue task
11 force or team, and that law enforcement officer, firefighter, emergency
12 medical technician or paramedic suffers injury or death in the
13 performance of his duties, he or his designee or legal representative
14 shall be entitled to the salary, pension rights, worker's compensation,
15 or other benefits as would have accrued if the injury or death had
16 occurred in the performance of duties in the territorial jurisdiction in
17 which the duties were normally performed.

18 In addition, such officer, firefighter, emergency medical technician
19 or paramedic shall have the same powers, authority and immunities as
20 law enforcement officers, firefighters, emergency medical technicians
21 and paramedics, as the case may be, in the municipality in which the
22 assistance is being rendered.

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24 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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29 Under the provisions of this bill, State and local law enforcement
30 officers, firefighters, emergency medical technicians and paramedics
31 who are appointed to or training for appointment to a State, county,
32 municipal or regional urban search and rescue task force or team and
33 who are injured or killed in the performance of their duties would be
34 entitled to the same salary, pension rights and other benefits as if the
35 injury or death had occurred in the jurisdiction where that person is
36 normally employed. The bill also provides the officer, firefighter,
37 emergency medical technician or paramedic with the same powers,

1 authority and immunities as law enforcement officers, firefighters,
2 emergency medical technicians and paramedics in the municipality
3 where the assistance is being rendered. Similar task forces or teams
4 organized by the federal government are composed of multi-agency
5 personnel who respond to disasters such as Hurricane Andrew and the
6 Oklahoma City bombing.

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11 Provides immunities and other benefits to persons who participate in
12 urban search and rescue teams.