

## 2016 Fire and Emergency Medical Services Legislation

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**[HB25](#)**: An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 18.2-151.1, relating to tampering, etc., with firefighting equipment; penalty.

**[SB 79](#) and [HB 233](#)**: Allows any locality to fund the cost of participation in mental health treatment and counseling programs by a member of a volunteer fire or rescue company.

**[HB 222](#) and [SB 233](#)**: Creates the Recognition of Emergency Medical Services Personnel Licensure Interstate Compact to (i) protect the public through verification of competency and ensure accountability for patient-care-related activities of licensed emergency medical services (EMS) personnel, (ii) facilitate the day-to-day movement of EMS personnel across state boundaries in the performance of their EMS duties as assigned by an appropriate authority, and (iii) authorize state EMS offices to afford immediate legal recognition to EMS personnel licensed in a member state.

**[HB 311](#)**: A bill that requires the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to undertake efforts to establish collaborative agreements with other states to allow emergency medical services providers to provide emergency medical services across state lines.

**[HB 374](#) and [SB 91](#)**: A legislation requiring upon application, the issuance of permanent license plates for emergency medical services vehicles owned by or under the exclusive control of a commercial or privately owned emergency medical services agency.

**[HB 854](#)**: Allows firefighters or emergency medical services personnel subjected to an interrogation that could lead to dismissal, demotion, or suspension for punitive reason to have a retired member of the department present as an observer. Current law allows only current members of the department to be present. The bill changes the term "current" to "active" to clarify members' status as active or retired.

**[HB 1279](#)**: Requires every public school to hold a fire drill at least twice during the first 20 school days of each school session and at least two additional fire drills during the remainder of the school session. Under current law, every public school is required to hold a fire drill at least once every week during the first 20 school days of each school session and at least once every month during the remainder of the school session. The bill also requires every public school to hold a lock-down drill at least twice during the first 20 school days of each school session and at least two additional lock-down drills during the remainder of the school session. Under current law, every public school is required to hold at least two lock-down drills every school year.

**[HB 1345](#)**: Revises the Line of Duty Act (the Act) by codifying revisions to the Act from the appropriation act and, among other changes, transferring overall administration of the Act to the Virginia Retirement System (VRS), transferring administration of health insurance benefits under the Act to the Department of Human Resource Management (the Department), and creating separate health benefits plans for beneficiaries under the Act. The bill has a delayed effective date of July 1, 2017, except that a final enactment requiring each nonparticipating employer to pay its pro rata share of estimated implementation costs to the VRS and the Department becomes effective July 1, 2016.