



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 825

January Session, 2025

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1318

Senate, May 5, 2025

The Committee on Finance, Revenue and Bonding reported through SEN. FONFARA of the 1st Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

***AN ACT ASSESSING A CERTAIN FEE FOR DEPOSIT INTO THE
FIREFIGHTERS CANCER RELIEF ACCOUNT.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) Each telephone or
2 telecommunications company providing local telephone service, each
3 provider of commercial mobile radio service, as defined in 47 CFR
4 Section 20.3, as amended from time to time, and each voice over Internet
5 protocol service provider, as defined in section 28-30b of the general
6 statutes, shall assess against each subscriber a fee in an amount equal to
7 five cents per month per access line. Such fee shall be remitted to the
8 office of the State Treasurer for deposit into the firefighters cancer relief
9 account established pursuant to section 7-313h of the general statutes,
10 not later than the fifteenth day of each month.

11 (b) The fee imposed under this section shall not apply to any prepaid
12 wireless telecommunications service, as defined in section 28-30b of the
13 general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	October 1, 2025	New section
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Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Subsec. (a), "provider of voice over Internet protocol service" was changed to "voice over Internet protocol service provider" for consistency with the general statutes.

PS *Joint Favorable C/R*

FIN

FIN *Joint Favorable Subst.-LCO*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Emergency Services and Public Protection, Dept.	Firefighters Cancer Relief Account - Revenue Gain	1.8 - 2.25 million	2.4 - 3.0 million

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill, which imposes a \$0.05 monthly fee on certain phone lines, is estimated to result in an annual revenue gain of \$2.4 to \$3.0 million to the Firefighters Cancer Relief Account beginning in FY 27. In FY 26, it is anticipated that the revenue will be between \$1.8 million to \$2.25 million for partial year implementation. There are estimated to be 4 to 5 million phone lines in the state that would be subject to the monthly fee.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of phone lines subject to the bill's provisions.

OLR Bill Analysis**sSB 1318*****AN ACT ASSESSING A CERTAIN FEE FOR DEPOSIT INTO THE FIREFIGHTERS CANCER RELIEF ACCOUNT.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires each telephone and telecommunications company providing local telephone service, and each provider of (1) commercial mobile radio service and (2) voice over Internet protocol (VOIP) service to charge each subscriber a new fee of five cents per month per service line. The funds collected through the charge must be deposited into the firefighters cancer relief account and be sent to the Office of the State Treasurer by the 15th day of each month.

Under the bill, a commercial mobile radio service is generally an interconnected, mobile service provided for profit and available to the public or a functional equivalent, including a mass-market service (by wire or radio) that provides the capability to transmit and receive data from nearly all internet endpoints. A VOIP service (1) enables real-time, two-way voice communication; (2) requires a broadband connection from the users' locations; (3) requires IP-compatible customer premises equipment; and (4) allows subscribers to receive and end calls that originate on the public switched telephone network.

The bill exempts prepaid wireless telecommunications services customers from the charge.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2025

BACKGROUND***Firefighters Cancer Relief Account***

PA 16-10 established the account to fund wage replacement benefits for eligible paid and volunteer firefighters diagnosed with cancer and

required the account to be funded by a diversion of money from the enhanced emergency 9-1-1 program. A subsequent Public Utilities Regulatory Authority decision ruled that the diversion is not permissible under federal law. PA 17-2, June Special Session, removed this fee as the funding source.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference - FIN
Yea 25 Nay 3 (03/18/2025)

Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee

Joint Favorable
Yea 47 Nay 5 (04/24/2025)