

Public Safety and Security Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No: HB-5404 / [Bill Status](#) / [Public Hearing Testimony](#)

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A JOB CLASSIFICATION FOR PART-TIME FIRE

Title: SERVICE INSTRUCTORS.

Vote Date: 3/17/2026

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 3/3/2026

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Public Safety and Security Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

The Public Safety and Security Committee introduced this proposal with the intent of creating a job classification regarding part-time fire service instructors. Some argue that fire service instructors' compensation and benefit eligibility do not properly reflect their years of expertise or the high-risk aspects of their career. This bill would allow the Commissioner of Emergency Services and Public Protection and the State Fire Administrator to establish a job classification for part-time fire service instructors.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

None Expressed.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

ALBANI, CHRISTOPHER, EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT-CT POLICE-FIRE UNION: Mr. Albani states how fire instructors are the backbone of fire service, as they are responsible for hazardous materials response, translating intricate theories of fire behavior, and life-saving medical interventions into the skills that firefighters use daily. These instructors work within high-risk environments and dedicate years to mastering their craft, yet their compensation does not reflect this. Mr. Albani explains how currently many fire instructors face inconsistent pay scales and lack of access to basic benefits like retirement contributions and healthcare, which are standard for the firefighters that they train, which creates systemic issues such as retention, safety, and equity. Passing this bill would allow fire instructors' livelihoods and expertise to be valued.

[MacDonald, Lou](#): Expressed their support of this bill if it helps the state get more citizens on the force.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None Expressed.

Reported by: Emma Rybacki, Clerk
Emma Green, Assist. Clerk

Date: 3/26/26