



General Assembly

February Session, 2026

**Raised Bill No. 5276**

LCO No. 1104



Referred to Committee on LABOR AND PUBLIC  
EMPLOYEES

Introduced by:  
(LAB)

***AN ACT CONCERNING VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENTS AND THE  
DEFINITION OF EMPLOYER UNDER THE STATE OCCUPATIONAL  
HEALTH AND SAFETY ACT.***

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

1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 31-367 of the general statutes is  
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
3 *1, 2026*):

4 (d) "Employer" means the state and any political subdivision thereof  
5 and, except as provided in section 31-369, as amended by this act, any  
6 volunteer fire department and any volunteer ambulance company;

7 Sec. 2. Subsection (a) of section 31-369 of the general statutes is  
8 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*  
9 *1, 2026*):

10 (a) This chapter applies to all employers, employees and places of  
11 employment in the state except the following: (1) Employees of the  
12 United States government; [and] (2) working conditions of employees

13 over which federal agencies other than the United States Department of  
14 Labor exercise statutory authority to prescribe or enforce standards or  
15 regulations affecting occupational safety and health; and (3) any  
16 volunteer fire department or volunteer ambulance company that is  
17 regulated by the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970, 29 USC  
18 651, et seq., as amended from time to time.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	31-367(d)
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2026</i>	31-369(a)

**LAB**      *Joint Favorable*