

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 859 Session of  
2005

INTRODUCED BY WAUGH, COSTA, STOUT, ERICKSON, WONDERLING, LOGAN,  
ORIE, PIPPY, MUSTO, PILEGGI, BOSCOLA, D. WHITE AND RAFFERTY,  
SEPTEMBER 14, 2005

REFERRED TO LABOR AND INDUSTRY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2005

AN ACT

1 Providing for appointment and promotion preference in public  
2 employment for volunteer firefighters.

3 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
4 hereby enacts as follows:

5 Section 1. Short title.

6 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Volunteer  
7 Firefighter Public Employment Preference Act.

8 Section 2. Definitions.

9 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall  
10 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the  
11 context clearly indicates otherwise:

12 "Public service." Employment by the Commonwealth or a  
13 political subdivision.

14 "Volunteer fire company." As defined in section 3 of the act  
15 of July 15, 1976 (P.L.1036, No.208), known as the Volunteer Fire  
16 Company, Ambulance Service and Rescue Squad Assistance Act.

17 "Volunteer firefighter." A member of a volunteer fire

1 company.

2 Section 3. Preference.

3 (a) Entitlement.--An appointing authority shall give  
4 preference in public service appointment and promotion to a  
5 volunteer firefighter who is eligible under subsection (b).

6 (b) Eligibility.--A volunteer firefighter is eligible for  
7 preference under subsection (a) if the volunteer firefighter can  
8 substantiate, by valid documentation, participation for a period  
9 of at least five years in at least 40% of the emergency calls  
10 responded to by the volunteer fire company in which the  
11 volunteer firefighter served.

12 Section 4. Effective date.

13 This act shall take effect in 60 days.