



130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST SPECIAL SESSION-2021

Legislative Document

No. 1440

H.P. 1056

House of Representatives, April 12, 2021

An Act To Provide Safe Gear for Female Firefighters

Received by the Clerk of the House on April 8, 2021. Referred to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative ROEDER of Bangor.
Cosponsored by Senator BALDACCI of Penobscot and
Representatives: CARDONE of Bangor, CUDDY of Winterport, OSHER of Orono, SUPICA
of Bangor.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 25 MRSA §2404** is enacted to read:

3 **§2404. Fund for properly fitting gear for female firefighters**

4 The State Fire Marshal shall administer a fund to provide grants to municipal fire
5 departments as defined in Title 30-A, section 3151, subsection 1, volunteer fire associations
6 as defined in Title 30-A, section 3151, subsection 3 and fire districts under Title 30-A,
7 chapter 164 to provide safe and properly fitting personal protective equipment and
8 firefighter turnout gear, including boots, for female firefighters. The fund is funded by an
9 appropriation, allocation or grant or donation by public or private sources. The State Fire
10 Marshal may engage in the solicitation of a grant or donation to be deposited into the fund.
11 The State Fire Marshal shall deposit with the Treasurer of State money in the fund not
12 currently needed by the State Fire Marshal to carry out the purposes of the fund to the credit
13 of the fund, which may be invested as provided by law. Interest received on investment of
14 funds under this section must be credited to the fund. Balances in the fund do not lapse but
15 must be carried forward to the next fiscal year. The State Fire Marshal may use funds in
16 the fund to pay for the reasonable expenses in administering the fund.

17 **Sec. 2. Appropriations and allocations.** The following appropriations and
18 allocations are made.

19 **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

20 **Female Firefighters Gear Fund**

21 Initiative: Appropriates funds to be used by the State Fire Marshal to provide grants to
22 municipal fire departments, volunteer fire associations and fire districts to purchase safe
23 and properly fitting gear for female firefighters.

24 GENERAL FUND	2021-22	2022-23
25 All Other	\$500,000	\$0
26		
27 GENERAL FUND TOTAL	\$500,000	\$0

28 **SUMMARY**

29 This bill appropriates \$500,000 in fiscal year 2021-22 for the State Fire Marshal to
30 provide grants to municipal fire departments, volunteer fire associations and fire districts
31 to purchase safe and properly fitting personal protective equipment and firefighter turnout
32 gear for female firefighters.