



131st MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2023

Legislative Document

No. 516

H.P. 321

House of Representatives, February 9, 2023

**An Act to Reduce Cancer Among Firefighters by Providing Grants
for Safety Equipment**

Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety suggested and ordered printed.

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

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative LANDRY of Farmington.
Cosponsored by Representatives: LAJOIE of Lewiston, NEWMAN of Belgrade, WHITE of Waterville.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 5 MRSA §3373** is enacted to read:

3 **§3373. Firefighter Safety Equipment Fund**

4 **1. Fund established.** The Firefighter Safety Equipment Fund, referred to in this
5 section as "the fund," is established under the commission as a nonlapsing fund to provide
6 funds to allow fire departments to purchase and install diesel vehicle exhaust systems and
7 heavy duty extractor washing machines.

8 **2. Grant program.** The commission shall establish criteria to award grants to fire
9 departments from the fund. The commission may adopt rules to implement this subsection.
10 Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in chapter
11 375, subchapter 2-A.

12 **3. Procedure.** A fire department may apply to the commission for grants. The
13 commission shall evaluate each application pursuant to the criteria developed pursuant to
14 subsection 2 and, to the extent funds are available, shall award grants from the fund.

15 **SUMMARY**

16 This bill creates the Firefighter Safety Equipment Fund and directs the Maine Fire
17 Protection Services Commission to provide grants to fire departments for the purchase and
18 installation of diesel vehicle exhaust systems and heavy duty extractor washing machines.