

Reasons to Support BIA Firefighters Retirement Changes

Direct exposure to PFAS containing chemicals, and hazardous chemicals from smoke and fire.

Exposure to incidents that can affect mental health 22 %increase in Depression, Anxiety, PTSD.

Work life stress that can result in,

Increase of Suicides (5%), Cardiovascular Disease (45%), Cardiac Arrest and Stroke, Cancer (14 %)

Increase in Career burnout with long careers

Decrease in average life expectance by 10%

All of this can have mitigating effects to an extent by not having an age requirements, allowing personnel to exit the fire service earlier in life.

Firefighters often have shorter retirement periods than other professions due to the physically demanding nature of the job and the increased risk of health issues from exposure to hazardous materials and stress, leading to earlier physical decline.

Retention of specialized firefighters is important, as many leave to other departments that offer retirement after 25 years of service, the resource can be difficult to recruit because of specialization

All Military Firefighters, Military Firefighter Supervisors, Assistant Military Fire Chiefs are Veterans of the United States Military .