

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Testimony In Support of

LD 1830 Resolve, to Establish a Pilot Program to Protect Firefighters from Cancer

Dear Senator Bailey, Rep. Mathieson and fellow members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services,

I am State Representative Barbara Bagshaw, representing District 106, part of Windham. I am sponsoring LD 1830 Resolve, to Establish a Pilot Program to Protect Firefighters from Cancer because of the unusually high risk of exposure to our first responders.

According to the *International Association of Firefighter*'s the number one cause of death for Firefighters is occupational cancer, with firefighters having a 9% greater risk of being diagnosed with cancer and a 14% higher risk of dying from cancer than the general population.

Creating a screening program will help in early detection in a high-risk environment.

Thank you for your time, and I would be happy to answer any questions.

Yours truly,

Barbara Bagshan

Barbara Bagshaw State Representative