

Representative Neil A. Hansen proposes to substitute the following bill:

**WORKERS' COMPENSATION BENEFITS TO
VOLUNTEER SAFETY OFFICERS**

2001 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Sponsor: Neil A. Hansen

This act modifies the Volunteer Government Workers Act to address workers' compensation coverage of voluntary firefighters and makes technical changes.

This act affects sections of Utah Code Annotated 1953 as follows:

AMENDS:

67-20-7, as last amended by Chapter 240, Laws of Utah 1996

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **67-20-7** is amended to read:

67-20-7. Workers' compensation benefits for volunteer firefighters.

(1) For purposes of this section, a "volunteer firefighter" is an individual who:

(a) is not regularly employed as a firefighter;

(b) is on the rolls of a fire department; and

(c) serves as a volunteer as defined in Section 67-20-2.

~~[(1)]~~ (2) In addition to the purposes set out in Subsections 67-20-3(2) and (3), a volunteer firefighter~~[-as defined in Section 49-5-103,]~~ is considered an agency employee for the purpose of receiving workers' compensation benefits under Title ~~[35A]~~ 34A, Chapter ~~[3]~~ 2, Workers' Compensation Act, and Chapter ~~[3a]~~ 3, Utah Occupational Disease Act.

~~[(2) These]~~ (3) The workers' compensation benefits as described in Subsection (2) are the exclusive remedy for all injuries and occupational diseases resulting from ~~[his]~~ the volunteer firefighter's services as a volunteer firefighter. ~~[Compensation]~~

(4) To compute the workers' compensation benefits for a volunteer firefighter, the weekly



- 26 compensation rate of the volunteer firefighter shall be computed [~~as indicated in Section 49-5-802]~~
27 by multiplying the state's average weekly wage by 108%.