

AUGUST 2023



# INDIANA FIRE FIGHTER

Representing Indiana's Professional Fire Fighters, Paramedics, EMT's, and 911 Telecommunicators

A large, detailed photograph of the Indiana State Capitol building at night. The building is illuminated with warm yellow lights, and its iconic black dome is a central feature. The building's facade is classical, with many columns and arches. In the foreground, there are dark silhouettes of trees and a well-lit green lawn. The overall scene is a high-contrast night shot.

## SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE EDITION



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# Table of Contents

Page 3	President Anthony Murray
Page 4	Vice President Mike Whited
Page 6	Tom Hanify - Legislative Affairs
Page 8-12	PFFUI Legislative Action
Page 16	Find Us On Social Media

Be



4th DVP Hank Harris, Senator Baldwin,  
L416 Airport DP Brian Booth



Rep. Bauer,  
Tony Murray,  
Mike Whited



Rep. Barrett with Richmond L1408



## President Anthony Murray

Brothers and Sisters, thank you for reviewing the PFFUI's newsletter special legislative edition. This newsletter con-

a one-day workshop in early September for our local affiliate leaders to concentrate on the historical development of the fire merit systems in Indiana. Our experts will present information on the difference between safety boards and merit systems, how merit boards are formed, strategies for establishing and advocating before merit boards, and discuss examples of how HEA 1016 continues our ongoing effort to professionalize firefighting and fire-based EMS across Indiana. After advocating for this vital law, providing education is the next important step in helping our locals realize success in the law's application.

Our legislative work continues even after the fall of the gavel. Vice-President Whited and I have been meeting with several legislators in their districts to discuss the fundamentals of the 1977 Police Officers' and Firefighters' Retirement and Disability Fund. Visiting newer legislators to deliver information about the '77 Fund is vital to our active and retired members. It is also an excellent time to chat about ideas for the next session and get to know legislators on a more personal level. It truly is time well spent for everyone as we prepare for the upcoming session, review the good work our members do daily, and hone essential relationships with lawmakers. We will continue on the road throughout the summer and fall as we try to meet with as many legislators as possible.

Because of the important work our members perform daily across the Hoosier state, many legislators have a

centrates on the bills the PFFUI legislative team tracked and reacted to in the General Assembly session that concluded at the end of April. Unless otherwise noted, many bills discussed in this newsletter became law on July 1. Also included is a historical recap of previous session bills that PFFUI was engaged with, going back over a decade. We even went back into the archives to source photos of PFFUI's legislative work from the past.

As you will read, the PFFUI had a successful 2023 session of the Indiana General Assembly advocating for several bills that brought additional funding for fire and EMS, more rights for our members, expansion of merit systems, PFAS level biomonitoring testing, behavioral health education, and suicide prevention education for public safety professions, and expansions in the 1977 Fund, to name a few of our legislative achievements.

In addition to our legislative team's daily presence in committee hearings, House and Senate floor actions, and meetings with legislators and committee chairs, we conduct business in the halls with our colleagues in legislative advocacy, otherwise known as lobbyists. We had a few members attend committee meetings this session to offer testimony and support the PFFUI position on a few bills. Thank you to our members from Evansville, South Bend, Indianapolis, and Indianapolis Airport for their willingness to help articulate the impact of specific bills heard in the committee from a very personal perspective.

Passage of House Enrolled Act 1016 makes merit systems the default system for administering hiring, promotions, and discipline for our members and requires education for our local leadership to fully understand the mechanics of the law and provide a means to address and guide employers and members regarding merit systems. Due to this change, the PFFUI will host



Governor Holcomb Bill Signing 2022



steadfast appreciation for what it takes for our members to respond to emergencies in our communities and keep them safe. The PFFUI has earned a reputation as a trusted source that offers expert perspectives on fire, rescue, and EMS issues and brings policy and legislative ideas and solutions to the General Assembly for consideration. Supporting the caucus leadership and members is important to passing good fire service and EMS legislation. While out of session, legislators can hold fundraising events to help support their campaign for election in the next cycle. Often these fundraisers may be a simple event or a short reception. Our team always tries to attend in person and help support legislators that support our issues by contributing from our political action committee (PAC). These opportunities are a great way to have a brief one-on-one conversation with the legislator and discuss ideas we may bring in the next session. Your voluntary contributions to our PAC fund are appreciated and help us support as many legislators as possible who support our professional priorities, regardless of party.

As the summer winds down, we are preparing for the interim study committee, Pension Management Oversight Committee (PMOC), to hold its meetings this fall. Several bills not heard in the regular session were referred to PMOC for further study and testimony. Our team will attend to hear discussion and testimony on issues slated to be heard, a full report from the Indiana Public Retirement System (INPRS) executive director and staff on the status and performance of the retirement funds they manage, including the 1937 and 1977 Funds. We have been working closely with the state FOP leadership as we prepare for PMOC and will be ready to provide input to PMOC on topics such as increasing the '77 Fund COLA maximum, extending the

DROP, enhancing the retirement benefit and learning the cost impacts of other bills not yet fully vetted in the legislature.

This year we enhanced how we reported updates on bills we were actively following or engaged with by providing information on our social media platforms and provided pre-session, mid-session, and post-session information on the PFFUI Podcast and at our Thomas H. Miller Legislative Conference. We will also post a final report on our website PFFUI.com. This fall, our legislative team, and principal officers will report to local union leaders at the District Meetings. We will have an updated PFFUI Legislative Priority agenda as we prepare for the short session of the 2024 Indiana General Assembly.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the newsletter, and thank you for the privilege of representing your professional interests at the state capitol. We always invite our members to visit us during the session to learn about how the legislative process affects your career and meet your legislators from your home district.



VP Mike Whited, South Bend L362  
Pres. Christian Rose, VP Eric Griffin



## Vice-President Mike Whited

Brothers and Sisters,

The 2023 Legislative Session was my 14th session lobbying on behalf of our members at the Indiana General Assembly. It has been a privilege to represent you all these years. Your PFFUI Legislative team works constantly to promote bills that protect the health and safety of our members, our ability to negotiate fair wages and benefits, and the ability to retire securely. In some years, including my first, we had to defend the rights and benefits my predecessors fought so hard to obtain. We have found that





years, we have met with well over one hundred legislators in their home districts to educate them on the 1977 Fund. This strategy has proven effective: For several sessions, no bills have been filed to change our pension negatively.

The relationships we have built have been effective in allowing us to protect our members at the statehouse through the years in many ways. I encourage you to look at the article in this newsletter that highlights some of our victories over the past decade and beyond. Each one of those bills represents months and years of building trust. The 2023 Session came with many successes as well:

HB1001 (The budget bill) will give IDHS \$7,000,000 to be used for firefighter training. This is the first time ever that money has been put directly into the State budget for firefighter training.

HB1016 mandates that unit with a population of more than 20,000 and that employs more than 12 firefighters must adopt a merit system if they don't already have a merit system or civil service commission.

HB1025 adds fire districts and fire territories to the Indiana code for firefighter discipline.

HB1055 removes residency requirements for firefighters in populations of 7500 and less.

HB1173 contains language for firefighter training and adds NFPA 855 to the Indiana code.

HB1219 makes Indiana one of the first states in the nation to start testing firefighters' blood for levels of PFAS. IDHS will test 1000 firefighters and create a database for PFAS levels, hopefully someday helping identify and decrease cancers in the fire service.

HB1321 requires mental health awareness training for firefighters and EMS professionals.

HB1341 requires manufacturers to put labels in firefighter protective gear that contain PFAS.

HB1578 allows firefighters to request to have personal information to be removed from public record.

SB185 allows airport authority firefighters to be eligible to participate in the 1977 Fund, increases the hiring age of firefighters to 39 years of age and makes technical correction to the 25-year longevity language in the Indiana code.

the best way to do that is to be present and to educate legislators on the unique nature of our profession.

During my first session several bills were filed to change the 1977 Pension Fund from a defined benefit pension to a 401k type pension. The 1977 Pension Fund was very healthy, with over 18,000 members and over \$5 billion in assets at that time, so it wasn't a question of fixing something broken. We knew these legislators didn't want to harm our members, so we spoke to them and found that the common denominator was constituents asking them to create the bills on their behalf. Of course, often, these constituents were money managers who wanted to profit from investments instead of protecting our members and survivors.

After dealing with these bills, we worked with our counterparts in the state FOP to devise a plan to educate legislators on the 1977 Police and Fire Pension Fund. The 1977 Fund is much more than just a retirement benefit; it also works as a short- and long-term disability benefit, a death benefit and a surviving spouse benefit. With the dangers of our jobs, the importance of these other 1977 Fund functions cannot be overstated. We have worked hard as an organization to develop relationships with legislators by being honest and forthright. Over the course of the past twelve



This year's successes, like the years before, are because we are at the Statehouse every day, watching what's happening, developing our relationships with legislators and communicating our position on legislation. These relationships don't happen overnight. They have been built over decades. We stand on the foundation built by Tom Miller, Brian Reed, Chuck Sosbe and others. These Brothers built trust into everything they did at the statehouse. Legislators that they know we will always tell them the truth and that our only goal is to look out for what's in the best interest of the men and women of the PFFUI. I can honestly say no other organization or lobbying group has the success like we have year after year at the Statehouse.

In closing, I announced at our convention in May that I will not be seeking re-election at next year's convention. I have served on the PFFUI Executive Board for 21 years, the last 14 years as Vice President. It truly has been my pleasure serving you all these years. I have gotten to know many of you around the State and have made many good friends that I will cherish for the rest of my life. I am grateful and humbled that I have gotten to do this for so long, but it has come time for someone else to take over. I announced at our convention so that if anyone is interested in doing this it will give you the time to explore the possibility of running. Besides being a firefighter, this is the greatest job in the world. Take care and stay safe.

Fraternally  
Mike Whited



**Tom Hanify**

In this newsletter, President Murray and Vice President Whited offer a detailed summary of the legislation that benefits our members passed at the 2023 Session. 2023 was another excellent year for the PFFUI at the Indiana General Assembly: I would like to discuss how that happened.

Before the start of the 2023 session, President Murray and Vice President Whited met with all four caucus leaders to present the PFFUI legislative priorities for the upcoming session. They met individually with President Pro Tempore of the Senate Bray, Senate Minority Leader Greg Taylor, Speaker of the House of Representatives Todd Huston and House of Representatives Minority Leader Phil GiaQuinta. The PFFUI has done this for a number of years for two basic reasons: To try to encourage leadership that they should support our agenda and to give them a heads up so there are no surprises.

Our success at the Indiana General Assembly is relatively simple and I believe that most of what we strive to do can be replicated at the Local level by following some basic principles of Lobbying:

- We are present. Make sure that our elected officials know that we are there and that we are paying attention. Success in business and politics is all about relationships. Work on building those relationships all year not just when you need something.
- We present ourselves as professionals. If we expect to be treated as professionals, we must dress and behave appropriately, remembering that we represent the finest and hardest working men & women in our country.
- We are truthful about the legislation we are trying to pass or defeat. If we lie or exaggerate, that will ruin all future trust our elected officials have in what we tell them. Legislators have memories like an elephant - they never forget if you present lousy information.
- Along the same lines, we are not afraid to say that we do not know something. Do your homework, know what you are saying and if you don't know, say, "I don't know but I will find out", and follow up by getting them the information as promptly as possible.
- We are patient. Sometimes we introduce



legislation to listen to what objections exist. This allows us to work on ways to address those objections and get the bill passed the next session. For example, we worked on the engineered lumber notification bill for four years before we were able to get it passed.

- We bring solutions. There are approximately 1500 bills being introduced and countless amendments offered yearly during the session. Legislators are busy so we don't waste anyone's time on useless legislation.
- The last rule can be the most challenging. "Don't hold a grudge." If a Legislator votes against our bills, win or lose, we must get past it. Some of the most challenging people in one legislative session have been our biggest supporters in the following sessions.

You might be thinking that the above rules are just common sense, but I can tell you, after being around the halls of the statehouse for over 35 years, many organizations do not follow those basic principles.

In the 1980s and 1990s, I was privileged to observe first-hand true professionals. Brothers Tom Miller and Brian Reed were our voices in the Indiana Statehouse for many years and they built a great foundation of credibility for the PFFUI. They built a tradition of bringing ideas with solutions and fighting against ideas that would harm our pension systems or damage working conditions for firefighters across Indiana. These two set the tone by mentoring Chuck Sosbe, Jim Ridley, Mike Whited and myself. These principles have been passed down to Tony Murray. I've been proud to see Tony uphold the tradition of integrity that we strive towards in those halls. That Brothers and Sisters, is why I am confident we will continue to see success in improving the lives of our members and their families through our efforts at the Indiana General Assembly.

## PFFUI Bill Signing from the Past



Left: Governor Evan Bayh

Right: Governor Frank O'Bannon

Bottom: Governor Mitch Daniels





# PFFUI LEGISLATIVE ACTION THROUGH THE YEARS

2010



## Governor Holcomb with Westfield L4416

**PURCHASE OF OUT-OF-STATE SERVICE CREDIT** (Soliday, E) - Allows 1977 Fund members to purchase service earned out of state.

**POLICE OFFICERS' AND FIREFIGHTERS' 1977 PENSION AND DISABILITY FUND** (Crouch, S) - Allows 1977 Fund members to designate beneficiaries if the 1977 fund member dies without receiving retirement or disability benefits and without a spouse, child, or parent entitled to receive survivor benefits.

**1977 FUND PURCHASE OF SERVICE CREDIT** (Goodin, T) - Allows 1977 Fund members to purchase prior service in certain public retirement funds.

**PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER**

**LAYOFF AND REINSTATEMENT** (Tyler, D) - Provides that the reinstatement rights of a laid off member of a city police or fire department, or a laid off member of a sheriff's department, terminates five years (instead of three years) after the day on which the member's layoff begins.

**SUSPENSIONS OR TERMINATIONS OF EMS PERSONNEL** (Tallian, K) - Gives certain job rights to municipal EMS.

**EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT** (Wyss, T) - Includes fire protection districts and fire protection territories as units for purposes of participation in the statewide emergency mutual aid program under certain circumstances.  
**RETURN OF 1977 FUND MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS** (Becker, V) - Allows a member of the 1977 police officers' and firefighters' pension and disability fund to designate one or more beneficiaries to receive the member's contributions plus interest if the member dies without receiving retirement or disability benefits and without a spouse, child, or parent entitled to receive survivor benefits.

2011

**PUBLIC PENSION FUNDS** (Niezgodski, D) - (1) Allows a member of the 1977 Fund who applied for disability prior to 1990 and is receiving a disability benefit to apply to a local board for a recommendation as to whether the member's disability occurred in the line of duty. (2) Provides that an active member of the 1977 fund who has entered the deferred retirement option plan (DROP) before July 1, 2011, may elect to exit the DROP and receive a partial lump sum distribution. Provides that a 1977 fund member who enters the DROP after June 30, 2011, may not elect to receive a partial lump sum distribution.

**PERF BOARD MEMBERSHIP** (Niezgodski, D) - Adds a police officer or firefighter as a member of the board of trustees of the public employees' retirement fund (PERF).



## 2012

**NEPOTISM; CONFLICT OF INTEREST** (Mahan, K) - Protects firefighters right to run for elected office. Concerning the state civil service system: (Original bill included local units of government until we were removed) (1) Removes responsibility for public employee collective bargaining from the budget agency. (2) Removes references to a state employee who is a party to a collective bargaining agreement or an employment contract, prohibited belonging to a union or paying union dues

## 2013

**FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICTS** (Mayfield, P) - Allows a fire protection district to purchase firefighting apparatus and equipment for the district on an installment conditional sale or mortgage contract running for a period not exceeding 15 years.

**1977 FUND MEMBERSHIP** (Harman, T) - Allows unilateral transfers with departments in the 1977 Fund

## 2014

**EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROVIDER DISABILITY BENEFITS** (Boots, P) - Authorizes a municipal corporation to provide programs of disability insurance (programs) to its emergency medical services providers who become disabled as the result of an injury or illness: (1) that is not covered by worker's compensation or occupational diseases compensation; or (2) for which worker's compensation or occupational diseases compensation has been exhausted.

## 2015

**EMS PROVIDER DEATH BENEFIT** (Macer, K) - Provides a public safety officer special death benefit to an emergency medical services provider who dies in the line of duty.

**FIRE TRAINING ACADEMY** (Frye, R) - Allows IDHS to establish a fire and public safety academy training system to create and conduct programs to train public safety personnel.

**PURCHASE OF SERVICE CREDIT** (Kruse, D) - Permits a member of the public employees' retirement fund (PERF) to purchase at full actuarial cost the member's prior service in the 1977 police officers' and firefighters' pension and disability fund (1977 fund).

## 2016

**LOCAL INCOME TAX** (Thompson, J) - Changed the LOIT system to the new LIT

**EMPLOYMENT OF VETERANS AS PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICERS; 1977 FUND RETIREMENT AGE** (Morris, R) - Waives the maximum hiring age restrictions that apply to the appointment and hiring of police officers and firefighters for an individual who is a veteran of the armed forces and who meets certain requirements. Requires a member of the 1977 fund to retire at 70 years of age.

## 2017

**CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS MANAGEMENT SERVICES** (Wesco, T) - Provides confidentiality protection to communications that emergency responders make to critical incident stress management personnel or records that are generated by critical incident stress management personnel after providing critical incident stress management services to emergency responders following a critical incident. Provides that critical incident stress management personnel are immune from liability for any acts, errors, or omissions committed in providing critical incident stress management services to emergency responders, unless the act, error, or omission constitutes wanton, willful, or intentional misconduct.

**DISCIPLINARY PROCESS FOR FIREFIGHTERS** (Mahan, K) - First time getting job rights for firefighters in Indiana code

**1977 FUND DISABILITY BENEFITS** (Speedy, M) - Provides that a member of the 1977 fund who has a line of duty permanent and total disability a disability benefit equal to the monthly salary (with increases) of a first class patrolman or firefighter at the commencement of the disability. Provides college tuition exemption for a qualifying child or spouse.

**DEFERRED RETIREMENT OPTION PLAN DISABILITY BENEFIT** (Boots, P) - Revises, for a member of the 1925 police pension fund, the 1937 firefighters' pension fund, the 1953 police pension fund, or the 1977 police officers' and firefighters' pension and disability fund who retires after June 30, 2017, because of a disability at least 12 months after the date the member enters the deferred retirement option plan (DROP), the calculation of the retirement benefit paid to the member. Allows a member who retired after January 1, 2015, and before July 1, 2017, because of a disability at least 12 months after the date the member entered the DROP to elect to have the member's retirement benefit recalculated under the new provision.

## 2018

**EMT USE OF INJECTABLE EPINEPHRINE** (Mahan, K) - Allows an EMT who has been certified to administer epinephrine through an auto-injector, a prefilled syringe, and a syringe and ampule.

**1977 FUND NEW UNIT CREDITS FOR PRIOR SERVICE** (Boots, P) - Provides, in the case of a unit (county, city, town, or township) that begins participation in the 1977 police officers' and firefighters' pension and disability fund (1977 fund), that the unit and the member (firefighter, police officer, or emergency medical technician) may agree how to share the cost of acquiring credit in the 1977 fund for the member's prior service as a firefighter, police officer, or emergency medical technician.

**1977 FUND PURCHASE OF SERVICE** (Grooms, R) - Allows a member of the 1977 fund to purchase service performed in Indiana as a full-time, fully paid police officer or firefighter for an employer that does not participate in the 1977 fund.

**SAFETY NOTICE OF ADVANCED STRUCTURAL BUILDINGS** (Eckerty, D) - Firefighter Safety notification - Requires an individual applying for a building permit issued by a city, town, or county for a Class 1 or Class 2 structure after June 30, 2018, to disclose the use of advanced structural components on the building permit application. Requires the city, town, or county building commissioner to notify the local fire department and local 911 call center of a Class 1 or Class 2 structure's use of advanced structural components not later than 90 days after issuing a building permit. Directs a 911 telephone call center to maintain and relay information contained in a qualifying property's notification and received by the 911 telephone call center.

## 2019

**PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS** (Mahan, K) - Put into law contract language for municipal firefighters

**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY** (Frye, R) - Allows members of police and fire departments to reside within a county that is noncontiguous to the county where the police or fire department is located but is not more than 50 miles from the closest boundary of the city, town, or township where the police or fire department is located. Includes an emergency management worker and a division fire investigator in the definition of "public safety officer" to qualify the person for the special death benefit for a public safety officer who dies in the line of duty.

**1977 FUND RETIREMENT AND SURVIVING SPOUSE BENEFITS** (Ford, J) - Increases the basic monthly pension benefit payable to a member of the 1977 police officers' and firefighters' pension and disability fund (1977 fund) who retires after June 30, 2019, with 20 years of service from 50% to 52% of the monthly salary of a first class patrolman or firefighter in the year the member ended active service. Increases from 60% to 70% of the member's monthly benefit the monthly benefit paid to a surviving spouse of a 1977 fund member who dies after June 30, 2019, other than in the line of duty.

**SURVIVOR HEALTH COVERAGE** (Crider, M) - Provides health insurance coverage for LODD surviving family.



**MOBILE INTEGRATION HEALTHCARE** (Tallian, K) - Provides that the office of the secretary of family and social services may reimburse certain emergency medical services provider agencies for covered services provided to a Medicaid recipient as part of a mobile integration healthcare program. Amends the definition of “emergency medical services” to include transportation services, acute care, chronic condition services, or disease management services as part of a mobile integration healthcare program. Provides that the emergency medical services commission, in consultation with the state department of health, may develop a mobile integration healthcare program and approve mobile integration healthcare program applications. Sets forth requirements of the commission concerning the mobile integration healthcare program. Provides that the commission may establish and administer a mobile integration healthcare grant and establishes the mobile integration healthcare grant fund.

## 2020

**RIGHTS OF PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS** (Pressel, J) - Provides that a full-time, paid, nonprobationary firefighter has certain minimum protections in addition to any protections provided by contract or other law with regard to the following: (1) The conduct of an interview of the firefighter by the fire department (department) regarding a complaint or internal investigation. (2) The giving of notice by the department to the firefighter of a personnel reassignment, personnel action, or disciplinary action. (3) The disclosure of the firefighter’s personal financial information for purposes of a personnel assignment or action. (4) The firefighter’s engagement in or refusal to engage in political activity.

**INTERFERING WITH PUBLIC SAFETY** (Miller, D) - Renames the offense of “interfering with law enforcement” to “interfering with public safety”, and provides that a person who enters a marked off area after having been denied entry by an emergency medical services provider commits interfering with public safety.

**PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER DEATH BENEFITS** (Goodrich, C) - Increases, from \$150,000 to \$225,000, the special line of duty death benefit.

**USE OF FIREFIGHTING FOAM CONTAINING PFAS** (Mayfield, P) - Prohibits the use of Class B firefighting foam containing an intentionally added PFAS chemical: (1) for training purposes; and (2) for testing purposes, unless the testing facility has implemented appropriate measures to prevent releases of the firefighting foam to the environment.

**REIMBURSEMENT FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES** (Kirchhofer, C) - Requires the state employee health plan, Medicaid, policies of accident and sickness insurance, and health maintenance organization contracts that provide coverage for emergency medical services to reimburse for emergency medical services that are: (1) rendered by an emergency medical services provider organization; (2) within the emergency medical services provider organization’s scope of practice; (3) performed or provided as advanced life support services; and (4) performed or provided during a response initiated through the 911 system.

**MENTAL HEALTH DISABILITY REVIEW PANELS** (Boots, P) - Establishes mental health disability review panels (review panel) for evaluation of members of the 1977 police officers’ and firefighters’ pension and disability fund (1977 fund) who have been determined to have an impairment for mental illness. Includes mental illness in the description of “occupational diseases” for purposes of determining whether a 1977 fund member has an impairment. review panel.

**CARE OF CITY POLICE OFFICERS AND FIREFIGHTERS** (Brown, L) - Provides that a city shall pay for the care of a police officer or firefighter who suffers an injury while performing the person’s duty or while the person is on duty or who contracts illness caused by the performance of the person’s duty.

**SURVIVOR BENEFITS** (Garten, C) - Provides that if a public safety officer enters a deferred retirement option plan (DROP) for the public safety officer’s respective pension plan and the public safety officer dies before the public safety officer’s DROP exit date, the benefit options for the public safety officer’s survivors are made similar, as applicable, to the DROP disability benefit options.

## 2021

**RESIDENCY OF POLICE OFFICERS AND FIREFIGHTERS** (FRYE R) Requires firefighters have residency in

Indiana or a contiguous state.

**DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (FRYE R)** After January 1 2022 any newly appointed career fire chief must take executive fire training within one year of appointment,

**PEER SUPPORT SERVICES AND CISM SERVICES (CRIDER M)** Provides, with certain exceptions, that written or oral communications concerning the provision of peer support services and critical incident stress management services (CISM services) to a first responder are confidential and may not be disclosed without the first responder's consent.

**EXPOSURE RISK DISEASES (FORD J)** Adds any variant of severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS), including coronavirus disease (COVID-19), to the list of diseases considered an exposure risk disease for purposes of emergency and public safety employee death and disability presumed in the line of duty.

**1977 PENSION AND DISABILITY FUND (BOOTS P)** Amends the definition of "salary of a first class patrolman or first class firefighter" for the purpose of benefits paid from and contributions made to the 1977 police officers' and firefighters' pension and disability fund. Increases longevity to max of 25 years.

## 2022

**PUBLIC SAFETY MATTERS (BARRETT B)** This is IDHS agency bill that made many changes to Indiana law for both fire and EMS. But main change that we were following is it changes how much money from fireworks fees goes towards firefighter training each year. This money is what funds the State district training centers. The estimate shows that this should increase from 2 million each year to 3.5 million each year.

**MEET AND CONFER FOR PUBLIC SAFETY EMPLOYEES (BOOTS P)** Allows an employer or an exclusive recognized representative of full-time employees of a police or fire department (exclusive representative) to request, in specified circumstances, an advisory opinion from the commissioner of labor (commissioner). Specifies a process by which an employer or exclusive representative may appeal in certain instances to the commissioner to request mediation and conciliation.

**1977 PENSION AND DISABILITY FUND (BOOTS P)** After July 1, 2022, if a department is in the 1977 Fund all members shall be in the 1977 Fund. Removes the 180 day maximum for separation, with regards to age, when a member moves from one department in the 1977 Fund to another department in the 1977 Fund.



President Murray  
testifying before committee



2019 - Rep. Pressel and Rep. Frye  
meet with members on the House floor





# INDIANA PROFESSIONAL FIREFIGHTERS PAC



*Supporting those who support us*

The successes we achieve in the Indiana General Assembly to protect and enhance our pensions and other benefits could not be realized without participation in the political process.

The Indiana Professional Firefighters PAC relies solely upon voluntary contributions and is requesting that each member dedicate a minimum of \$1.00 per paycheck to build an effective political action committee. To donate return the form below, visit [www.paypal.me/inffpac](http://www.paypal.me/inffpac), or scan the QR Code below.

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Retired Senator Phil Boots  
at PMOC

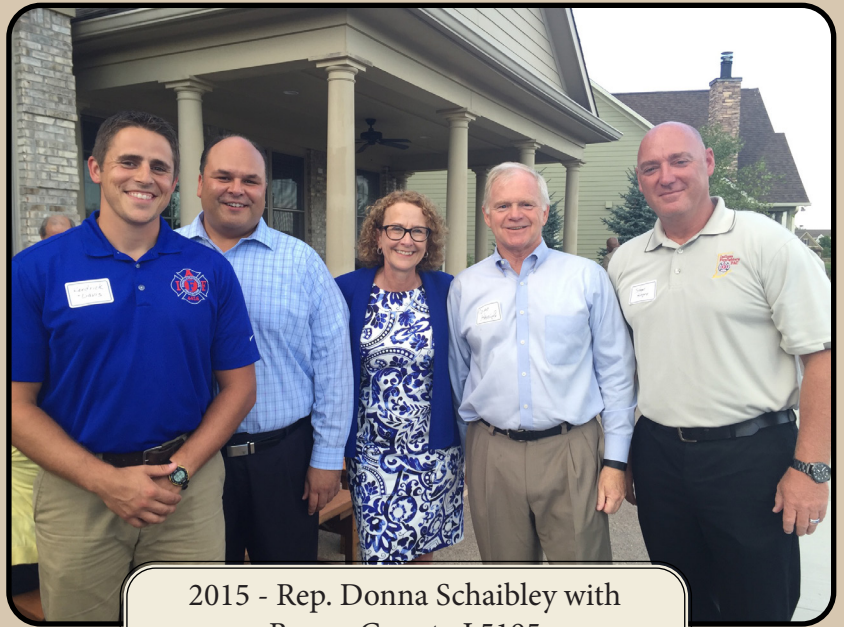


Feb. 2020 - PFFUI Executive Board and Trustees,  
President Emeritus Miller meet with Gov. Holcomb





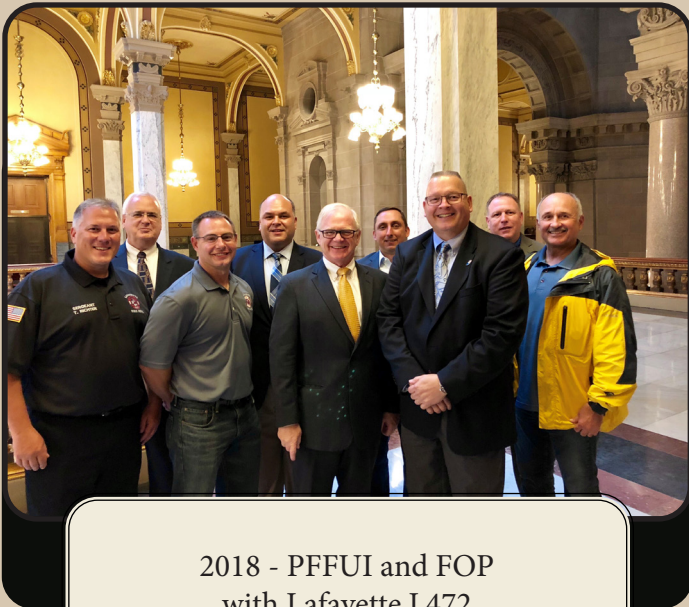
Leader GiaQuinta



2015 - Rep. Donna Schaibley with  
Boone County L5195



Representative Davis  
at FIREOPS 101



2018 - PFFUI and FOP  
with Lafayette L472  
and Indianapolis L416  
visiting the statehouse



Evansville L357 Pres. Larry Zuber and  
Brother Jonathan Wright





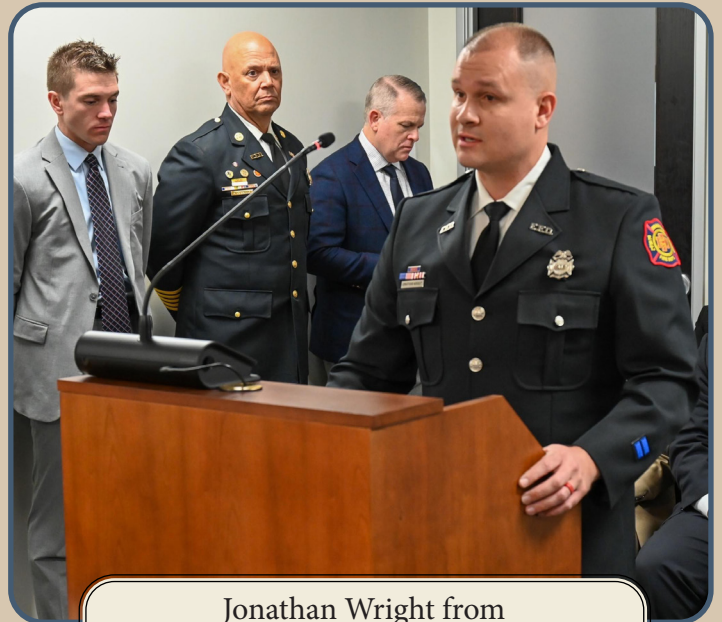
2019 - House Committee on  
Veterans Affairs and Public Safety



Day one of the 2023 Season  
Tony Murray, Mike Whited, Tom Hanify



VP Whited, Sen. Lanane, Julius Anderson,  
Retired Muncie Firefighter and  
State Representative Hurley Goodall,  
Rep. Errington



Jonathan Wright from  
Evansville L357 Testifying

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