

Text of amendment (Mr. Kulik of Worthington and other members of the House) to the Senate Bill relative to the health and fitness standards for police officers and firefighters (Senate, No. 1967). June 4, 1998.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety-Eight.
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By striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the following:—

1 “SECTION 1. The eighth paragraph of section 61A of chap-
2 ter 31 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 1996 Official
3 Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following sentence:—
4 Notwithstanding the foregoing, the provisions of this section shall
5 not apply to volunteer firefighters.

1 SECTION 2. Notwithstanding the provisions of the third para-
2 graph and the fifth paragraph of section 61A of chapter 31 of the
3 General Laws, any person appointed to a permanent, temporary or
4 intermittent, or reserve police or firefighter position after
5 November 1, 1996, who has not undergone initial medical and
6 physical fitness examinations or met such standards after such ini-
7 tial tests may perform the duties of such position until he has
8 undergone such initial medical and physical fitness examinations
9 and, thereafter if he has met such initial standards; provided, how-
10 ever, that any person so appointed shall undergo such examina-
11 tions and meet such standards on or before July 1, 1999; provided,
12 further, that any person so appointed after November 1, 1996 who
13 has undergone such initial tests and met such standards and failed
14 a subsequent in-service examination may continue to receive his
15 regular compensation provided he undergoes a reexamination on
16 or before July 1, 1999.

1 SECTION 3. There is hereby established a special commission
2 to consist of three members of the senate, five members of the
3 house of representatives, and three persons to be appointed by the
4 governor for the purpose of making an investigation and study
5 relative to the health and physical fitness standards for call fire-
6 fighters. Said commission shall include a determination of the
7 funding for, cost, frequency and availability of testing; benefits
8 relative to call firefighters pursuant to the pension laws; the feasi-
9 bility of exemptions from the testing requirements for small
10 municipalities and appropriate training standards for all fire-
11 fighters. Said commission shall report to the general court the
12 results of its investigation and study, and its recommendations, if
13 any, together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry said rec-
14 ommendations into effect, by filing the same with with clerk of
15 the house of representatives on or before December 31, 1998.”.