

# HOUSE BILL 595

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By: **Delegates Rogers, Bagnall, B. Barnes, Bartlett, Cain, Carey, Chang, Charkoudian, Crosby, D.E. Davis, Feldmark, Fennell, Glenn, Lisanti, C. Watson, and Wilson**

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2019

Assigned to: Economic Matters

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Workers' Compensation – Medical Presumptions**

3 FOR the purpose of altering the types of cancer that are considered occupational diseases  
4 suffered in the line of duty and are compensable in a certain manner; and generally  
5 relating to the occupational disease presumption for cancers under the workers'  
6 compensation law.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
8 Article – Labor and Employment  
9 Section 9–503(c)  
10 Annotated Code of Maryland  
11 (2016 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
13 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article – Labor and Employment**

15 9–503.

16 (c) A paid firefighter, paid firefighting instructor, paid rescue squad member,  
17 paid advanced life support unit member, or a sworn member of the Office of the State Fire  
18 Marshal employed by an airport authority, a county, a fire control district, a municipality,  
19 or the State or a volunteer firefighter, volunteer fire fighting instructor, volunteer rescue  
20 squad member, or volunteer advanced life support unit member who is a covered employee  
21 under § 9–234 of this title is presumed to be suffering from an occupational disease that  
22 was suffered in the line of duty and is compensable under this title if the individual:

23 (1) has leukemia or prostate, rectal, throat, multiple myeloma,

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, brain, testicular, **BLADDER, KIDNEY OR RENAL CELL**, or  
2 breast cancer that is caused by contact with a toxic substance that the individual has  
3 encountered in the line of duty;

4 (2) has completed at least 10 years of service as a firefighter, firefighting  
5 instructor, rescue squad member, or advanced life support unit member or in a combination  
6 of those jobs in the department where the individual currently is employed or serves;

7 (3) is unable to perform the normal duties of a firefighter, firefighting  
8 instructor, rescue squad member, or advanced life support unit member in the department  
9 where the individual currently is employed or serves because of the cancer or leukemia  
10 disability; and

11 (4) in the case of a volunteer firefighter, volunteer fire fighting instructor,  
12 volunteer rescue squad member, or volunteer advanced life support unit member, has met  
13 a suitable standard of physical examination before becoming a firefighter, firefighting  
14 instructor, rescue squad member, or advanced life support unit member.

15 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
16 October 1, 2019.