

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That a new section be and it is hereby added to Article 101 of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1943 Supplement), title "Workmen's Compensation," sub-title "Application of Article; Extra-hazardous Employments," said new section to be known as Section 46A, to follow immediately after Section 46 of said Article, and to read as follows:

46A. (a). All members of all volunteer fire companies in Kent County while going to or returning from or fighting a fire or while engaged as a member of any first aid or rescue squad created within such fire companies shall be deemed workmen for wages and engaged in extra-hazardous employment within the meaning of this Article.

(b). Compensation for injury or death shall be based upon the salary or wages received by a volunteer fireman in his private employment. Any volunteer fireman whose income is derived from any source other than salary or wages shall be entitled to the maximum compensation for injury or, in case of death, his dependents shall be entitled to the maximum compensation for death; provided, however, that where any volunteer fireman is not actively engaged in a business enterprise at the time of his injury or death, compensation for injury or death shall be paid upon the basis of the weekly income last received by him when so engaged; and further provided, that if such fireman has never been engaged in a business enterprise, compensation for injury or death shall be the minimum compensation authorized by this Article.

(c). The County Commissioners of Kent County shall secure compensation to volunteer firemen in case of death, or to their dependents, by insuring the payment of such compensation in the State Accident Fund or in any private stock corporation or mutual association authorized to provide such insurance. The County Commissioners shall annually levy upon the assessable property of Kent County a tax sufficient to pay for such insurance. Provided, however, that the active members of the Chestertown Volunteer Fire Company shall be limited to fifty members and the active members of each of the other volunteer fire companies shall be limited to forty active members, and only active members shall be covered by the provisions of this Section.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That all laws, whether public general or public local, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act be and they are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.