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P.L. 2021, CHAPTER 123, *approved June 24, 2021*  
Assembly, No. 4745 (*First Reprint*)

1 AN ACT concerning exempt fireman certificates and New Jersey  
2 State Firemen's Association membership and amending  
3 N.J.S.40A:14-56 and R.S.43:17-9.  
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
6 of New Jersey:

7  
8 1. N.J.S.40A:14-56 is amended to read as follows:

9 40A:14-56. A member of the fire department and force of a  
10 municipality shall be entitled to an exempt fireman certificate when  
11 it appears that at the time of his appointment he was of good moral  
12 character and was not under 18 or over **[45]** 57 years of age and  
13 that he had performed <sup>1;1</sup> during a period of seven years, 60% of  
14 fire duty <sup>1;1</sup> or after January 1, 2009, 50% of fire duty <sup>1;</sup> or after  
15 January 1, 2020, a percentage rate as set by the executive committee  
16 of the New Jersey State Exempt Firemen's Association<sup>1</sup>, in each  
17 year, respectively. Any member who otherwise would be eligible  
18 for an exempt fireman certificate, but who, as the result of an injury  
19 or injuries incurred out of or in the course of fire duty, is  
20 permanently unable to fulfill the seven-year performance  
21 requirement set forth in this section, shall be entitled to an exempt  
22 fireman certificate if, at the time he incurred the injury or injuries,  
23 the member had performed <sup>1;1</sup> during a period of five years, 60% of  
24 fire duty <sup>1;1</sup> or after January 1, 2009, 50% of fire duty <sup>1;</sup> or after  
25 January 1, 2020, the percentage rate as set by the executive  
26 committee of the New Jersey State Exempt Firemen's Association<sup>1</sup>,  
27 in each year, respectively. In cases where the appointment was  
28 made during the war years the age limit shall be extended 10 years.  
29 Service in the United States Armed Forces during the war years  
30 shall be considered as fire duty service.

31 Service in more than one municipal fire department, for separate  
32 periods not concurrent, amounting in the aggregate to seven years,  
33 shall be deemed equivalent to seven years' service in a single  
34 municipal fire department and any fireman so serving shall be  
35 entitled to an exempt fireman certificate from the department and  
36 force in the municipality wherein he is serving at the time when he  
37 becomes entitled to the certificate. The prior service shall be  
38 certified by the chief executive officer of the municipality or

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

<sup>1</sup>Assembly ALP committee amendments adopted December 7, 2020.

1 municipalities wherein the member served and attested by the  
2 municipal clerk or clerks.

3 (cf: P.L.2014, c.64, s.2)

4

5 2. R.S.43:17-9 is amended to read as follows:

6 43:17-9. The membership of such corporation shall consist,  
7 without any formal election thereto, of the officers and members of  
8 such fire engine, hook and ladder, hose and supply company or  
9 companies, fire association or fire department, or board of  
10 firewardens, as shall be under the supervision or control of the  
11 governing board or body of the municipality or fire district and  
12 who, at the time of their becoming eligible for membership in the  
13 New Jersey State Firemen's Association, shall be not less than 18  
14 years of age and who were not more than **[45]** 57 years of age at  
15 the time of joining the <sup>1</sup>**[fire engine, hook and ladder, hose and**  
16 **supply company or companies, fire association or fire department,**  
17 **or board of firewardens]** New Jersey State Firemen's Association<sup>1</sup>  
18 and shall furnish evidence of good health in accordance with such  
19 reasonable rules and regulations as the executive committee of the  
20 New Jersey State Firemen's Association shall from time to time  
21 establish; the officers and members of any nonprofit corporations  
22 and associations incorporated pursuant to N.J.S.15A:1-1 et seq.; and  
23 the officers and members of any association therein of exempt  
24 firemen. The whole body of the membership of such corporation  
25 shall have the same rights therein as the charter members thereof.

26 (cf: P.L.1998, c.90, s.1)

27

28 3. This act shall take effect immediately and be retroactive to  
29 <sup>1</sup>**[February 22, 2020]** January 1, 2020<sup>1</sup> .

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34 \_\_\_\_\_  
35 Raises from 45 to 57 maximum eligibility age for exempt  
36 fireman certificates and membership in New Jersey State Firemen's  
Association.

# ASSEMBLY, No. 4745

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED SEPTEMBER 24, 2020

**Sponsored by:**

**Assemblyman JOHN ARMATO**

**District 2 (Atlantic)**

**Assemblywoman ANNETTE CHAPARRO**

**District 33 (Hudson)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Raises from 45 to 57 maximum eligibility age for exempt fireman certificates and membership in New Jersey State Firemen's Association.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/8/2020)**

1 AN ACT concerning exempt fireman certificates and New Jersey  
2 State Firemen's Association membership and amending  
3 N.J.S.40A:14-56 and R.S.43:17-9.

4  
5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
6 of New Jersey:

7  
8 1. N.J.S.40A:14-56 is amended to read as follows:  
9 40A:14-56. A member of the fire department and force of a  
10 municipality shall be entitled to an exempt fireman certificate when  
11 it appears that at the time of his appointment he was of good moral  
12 character and was not under 18 or over **[45]** 57 years of age and  
13 that he had performed during a period of seven years, 60% of fire  
14 duty or after January 1, 2009, 50% of fire duty, in each year,  
15 respectively. Any member who otherwise would be eligible for an  
16 exempt fireman certificate, but who, as the result of an injury or  
17 injuries incurred out of or in the course of fire duty, is permanently  
18 unable to fulfill the seven-year performance requirement set forth in  
19 this section, shall be entitled to an exempt fireman certificate if, at  
20 the time he incurred the injury or injuries, the member had  
21 performed during a period of five years, 60% of fire duty or after  
22 January 1, 2009, 50% of fire duty, in each year, respectively. In  
23 cases where the appointment was made during the war years the age  
24 limit shall be extended 10 years. Service in the United States  
25 Armed Forces during the war years shall be considered as fire duty  
26 service.

27 Service in more than one municipal fire department, for separate  
28 periods not concurrent, amounting in the aggregate to seven years,  
29 shall be deemed equivalent to seven years' service in a single  
30 municipal fire department and any fireman so serving shall be  
31 entitled to an exempt fireman certificate from the department and  
32 force in the municipality wherein he is serving at the time when he  
33 becomes entitled to the certificate. The prior service shall be  
34 certified by the chief executive officer of the municipality or  
35 municipalities wherein the member served and attested by the  
36 municipal clerk or clerks.

37 (cf: P.L.2014, c.64, s.2)

38

39 2. R.S.43:17-9 is amended to read as follows:

40 43:17-9. The membership of such corporation shall consist,  
41 without any formal election thereto, of the officers and members of  
42 such fire engine, hook and ladder, hose and supply company or  
43 companies, fire association or fire department, or board of  
44 firewardens, as shall be under the supervision or control of the  
45 governing board or body of the municipality or fire district and

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 who, at the time of their becoming eligible for membership in the  
2 New Jersey State Firemen's Association, shall be not less than 18  
3 years of age and who were not more than **[45]** 57 years of age at  
4 the time of joining the fire engine, hook and ladder, hose and supply  
5 company or companies, fire association or fire department, or board  
6 of firewardens and shall furnish evidence of good health in  
7 accordance with such reasonable rules and regulations as the  
8 executive committee of the New Jersey State Firemen's Association  
9 shall from time to time establish; the officers and members of any  
10 nonprofit corporations and associations incorporated pursuant to  
11 N.J.S.15A:1-1 et seq.; and the officers and members of any  
12 association therein of exempt firemen. The whole body of the  
13 membership of such corporation shall have the same rights therein  
14 as the charter members thereof.

15 (cf: P.L.1998, c.90, s.1)

16

17 3. This act shall take effect immediately and be retroactive to  
18 February 22, 2020.

19

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21

#### STATEMENT

22

23 Under current law, a firefighter is required to join the fire service  
24 between the ages of 18 and 45 in order to be eligible for an exempt  
25 fireman certificate. Exempt fireman certificates are issued to  
26 eligible firefighters who have responded to at least 60 percent of  
27 their department's fire duty calls over a seven-year period.

28 This bill would increase, from 45 to 57, the age by which a  
29 firefighter is required to join the fire service to establish eligibility  
30 for the New Jersey State Firemen's Association and for an exempt  
31 fireman certificate. The bill would take effect immediately and be  
32 retroactive to February 22, 2020.

# ASSEMBLY LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### **ASSEMBLY, No. 4745**

with committee amendments

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: DECEMBER 7, 2020

The Assembly Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 4745.

As amended and reported by the committee, Assembly Bill No. 4745 would increase, from 45 to 57, the age by which a firefighter is required to join the fire service to establish eligibility for the New Jersey State Firemen's Association and for an exempt fireman certificate. In addition, the bill allows the New Jersey State Exempt Firemen's Association to determine the percentage of service necessary to issue an exempt fireman certificate.

Under current law, a firefighter is required to join the fire service between the ages of 18 and 45 in order to be eligible for an exempt fireman certificate. The amended bill increases the maximum age at which an firefighters are eligible for an exempt certificate to 57 years old.

Current law also provides that exempt fireman certificates are issued to eligible firefighters who have responded to at least 60 percent of their department's fire duty calls over a seven-year period. The amended bill would allow the New Jersey State Exempt Firemen's Association to determine after January 1, 2020 the percentage of fire duty calls to which a firefighter is required to respond in order to receive an exempt fireman certificate.

The bill would take effect immediately and be retroactive to January 1, 2020.

#### COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amended the bill to:

1) allow the New Jersey State Exempt Firemen's Association to determine the percentage of fire duty calls to which a firefighter is required to respond in order to receive an exempt fireman certificate following January 1, 2020; and

2) provide that its provisions are to take effect immediately and be retroactive to January 1, 2020. As introduced, the bill was to take effect immediately and be retroactive to February 22, 2020.



ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

**ASSEMBLY, No. 4745**

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: JANUARY 7, 2021

The Assembly Appropriations Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 4745 (1R).

This bill would increase, from 45 to 57, the age by which a firefighter is required to join the fire service to establish eligibility for the New Jersey State Firemen's Association and for an exempt fireman certificate. In addition, the bill allows the New Jersey State Exempt Firemen's Association to determine the percentage of service necessary to issue an exempt fireman certificate.

Under current law, a firefighter is required to join the fire service between the ages of 18 and 45 in order to be eligible for an exempt fireman certificate. The amended bill increases the maximum age at which a firefighter is eligible for an exempt certificate to 57 years old.

Current law also provides that exempt fireman certificates are issued to eligible firefighters who have responded to at least 60 percent of their department's fire duty calls over a seven-year period. The amended bill would allow the New Jersey State Exempt Firemen's Association to determine after January 1, 2020 the percentage of fire duty calls to which a firefighter is required to respond in order to receive an exempt fireman certificate.

The bill would take effect immediately and be retroactive to January 1, 2020.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This bill is not certified as requiring a fiscal note.

# SENATE LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

[First Reprint]

**ASSEMBLY, No. 4745**

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: MAY 20, 2021

The Senate Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 4745 (1R).

As reported by the committee, this bill would increase, from 45 to 57, the maximum eligibility age for exempt fireman certificates and membership in the New Jersey State Firemen's Association. In addition, the bill allows the New Jersey State Exempt Firemen's Association to determine the percentage of service necessary to issue an exempt fireman certificate.

Under current law, a firefighter is required to join the fire service between the ages of 18 and 45 in order to be eligible for an exempt fireman certificate. The bill increases the maximum age at which firefighters are eligible for an exempt certificate to 57 years old.

Current law also provides that exempt fireman certificates are issued to eligible firefighters who have responded to at least 60 percent of their department's fire duty calls over a seven-year period. The bill would allow the New Jersey State Exempt Firemen's Association to determine after January 1, 2020 the percentage of fire duty calls to which a firefighter is required to respond in order to receive an exempt fireman certificate.

Under current law, a firefighter is required to be 45 years of age at the time of joining the fire engine, hook and ladder, hose and supply company, fire association or fire department, or board of firewardens in order to be eligible for membership in the New Jersey State Firemen's Association. Under the provisions of this bill, a firefighter is required to be 57 years of age at the time of joining the New Jersey State Firemen's Association in order to be eligible for membership in the New Jersey State Firemen's Association.

As reported by the committee, Assembly Bill No. 4745 (1R) is identical to Senate Bill No. 3277, which also was reported by the committee on this same date.

# SENATE, No. 3277

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED DECEMBER 14, 2020

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator ANTHONY M. BUCCO**

**District 25 (Morris and Somerset)**

**Senator TROY SINGLETON**

**District 7 (Burlington)**

**Senator MICHAEL J. DOHERTY**

**District 23 (Hunterdon, Somerset and Warren)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senator Pou**

**SYNOPSIS**

Raises from 45 to 57 maximum eligibility age for exempt fireman certificates and membership in New Jersey State Firemen's Association.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/3/2021)**

1 AN ACT concerning exempt fireman certificates and New Jersey  
2 State Firemen's Association membership and amending  
3 N.J.S.40A:14-56 and R.S.43:17-9.

4  
5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
6 of New Jersey:

7  
8 1. N.J.S.40A:14-56 is amended to read as follows:  
9 40A:14-56. A member of the fire department and force of a  
10 municipality shall be entitled to an exempt fireman certificate when  
11 it appears that at the time of his appointment he was of good moral  
12 character and was not under 18 or over **[45]** 57 years of age and  
13 that he had performed: during a period of seven years, 60% of fire  
14 duty; or after January 1, 2009, 50% of fire duty; or after January 1,  
15 2020, a percentage rate as set by the executive committee of the  
16 New Jersey State Exempt Firemen's Association, in each year,  
17 respectively. Any member who otherwise would be eligible for an  
18 exempt fireman certificate, but who, as the result of an injury or  
19 injuries incurred out of or in the course of fire duty, is permanently  
20 unable to fulfill the seven-year performance requirement set forth in  
21 this section, shall be entitled to an exempt fireman certificate if, at  
22 the time he incurred the injury or injuries, the member had  
23 performed: during a period of five years, 60% of fire duty; or after  
24 January 1, 2009, 50% of fire duty; or after January 1, 2020, the  
25 percentage rate as set by the executive committee of the New Jersey  
26 State Exempt Firemen's Association, in each year, respectively. In  
27 cases where the appointment was made during the war years the age  
28 limit shall be extended 10 years. Service in the United States  
29 Armed Forces during the war years shall be considered as fire duty  
30 service.

31 Service in more than one municipal fire department, for separate  
32 periods not concurrent, amounting in the aggregate to seven years,  
33 shall be deemed equivalent to seven years' service in a single  
34 municipal fire department and any fireman so serving shall be  
35 entitled to an exempt fireman certificate from the department and  
36 force in the municipality wherein he is serving at the time when he  
37 becomes entitled to the certificate. The prior service shall be  
38 certified by the chief executive officer of the municipality or  
39 municipalities wherein the member served and attested by the  
40 municipal clerk or clerks.

41 (cf: P.L.2014, c.64, s.2)

42  
43 2. R.S.43:17-9 is amended to read as follows:  
44 43:17-9. The membership of such corporation shall consist,  
45 without any formal election thereto, of the officers and members of

**EXPLANATION** – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 such fire engine, hook and ladder, hose and supply company or  
2 companies, fire association or fire department, or board of  
3 firewardens, as shall be under the supervision or control of the  
4 governing board or body of the municipality or fire district and  
5 who, at the time of their becoming eligible for membership in the  
6 New Jersey State Firemen's Association, shall be not less than 18  
7 years of age and who were not more than **[45]** 57 years of age at  
8 the time of joining the **[fire engine, hook and ladder, hose and**  
9 **supply company or companies, fire association or fire department,**  
10 **or board of firewardens]** New Jersey State Firemen's Association  
11 and shall furnish evidence of good health in accordance with such  
12 reasonable rules and regulations as the executive committee of the  
13 New Jersey State Firemen's Association shall from time to time  
14 establish; the officers and members of any nonprofit corporations  
15 and associations incorporated pursuant to N.J.S.15A:1-1 et seq.; and  
16 the officers and members of any association therein of exempt  
17 firemen. The whole body of the membership of such corporation  
18 shall have the same rights therein as the charter members thereof.  
19 (cf: P.L.1998, c.90, s.1)

20

21 3. This act shall take effect immediately and be retroactive to  
22 January 1, 2020.

23

24

25

#### STATEMENT

26

27 This bill would increase, from 45 to 57, the age by which a  
28 firefighter is required to join the fire service to establish eligibility  
29 for the New Jersey State Firemen's Association and for an exempt  
30 fireman certificate. In addition, the bill allows the New Jersey State  
31 Exempt Firemen's Association to determine the percentage of  
32 service necessary to issue an exempt fireman certificate.

33 Under current law, a firefighter is required to join the fire service  
34 between the ages of 18 and 45 in order to be eligible for an exempt  
35 fireman certificate. The amended bill increases the maximum age  
36 at which firefighters are eligible for an exempt certificate to 57  
37 years old.

38 Current law also provides that exempt fireman certificates are  
39 issued to eligible firefighters who have responded to at least 60  
40 percent of their department's fire duty calls over a seven-year  
41 period. The amended bill would allow the New Jersey State Exempt  
42 Firemen's Association to determine after January 1, 2020 the  
43 percentage of fire duty calls to which a firefighter is required to  
44 respond in order to receive an exempt fireman certificate.

45 The bill would take effect immediately and be retroactive to  
46 January 1, 2020.

# SENATE LAW AND PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### SENATE, No. 3277

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: MAY 20, 2021

The Senate Law and Public Safety Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 3277.

As reported by the committee, this bill would increase, from 45 to 57, the maximum eligibility age for exempt fireman certificates and membership in the New Jersey State Firemen's Association. In addition, the bill allows the New Jersey State Exempt Firemen's Association to determine the percentage of service necessary to issue an exempt fireman certificate.

Under current law, a firefighter is required to join the fire service between the ages of 18 and 45 in order to be eligible for an exempt fireman certificate. The bill increases the maximum age at which firefighters are eligible for an exempt certificate to 57 years old.

Current law also provides that exempt fireman certificates are issued to eligible firefighters who have responded to at least 60 percent of their department's fire duty calls over a seven-year period. The bill would allow the New Jersey State Exempt Firemen's Association to determine after January 1, 2020 the percentage of fire duty calls to which a firefighter is required to respond in order to receive an exempt fireman certificate.

Under current law, a firefighter is required to be 45 years of age at the time of joining the fire engine, hook and ladder, hose and supply company, fire association or fire department, or board of firewardens in order to be eligible for membership in the New Jersey State Firemen's Association. Under the provisions of this bill, a firefighter is required to be 57 years of age at the time of joining the New Jersey State Firemen's Association in order to be eligible for membership in the New Jersey State Firemen's Association.

As reported by the committee, Senate Bill No. 3277 is identical to Assembly Bill No. 4745 (1R), which also was reported by the committee on this same date.

# Governor Murphy Takes Action On Legislation

06/24/2021

**TRENTON** – Today, Governor Phil Murphy signed the following bills into law:

**A-2116/S-2009 w/GR (Tully, Swain, Armato/Lagana)** Requires State Treasurer to submit report to Legislature every six months identifying deadlines for applications for federal funds by State agencies.

**A-4745/S3277 (Armato, Chaparro, Danielsen/Bucco, Singleton, Doherty)** Raises from 45 to 57 maximum eligibility age for exempt fireman certificates and membership in New Jersey State Fireman's Association.

**A-5590/S-3819 (Mazzeo, Armato, Greenwald/Sweeney, Beach)** Extends period of municipal stabilization and recovery, with certain modifications, under "Municipal Stabilization and Recovery Act."

**S-347/A-1992 w/GR (Smith, Vitale/Stanley, Conaway, Houghtaling)** Establishes "NJ One Health Task Force."

**S-619/A1635 w/GR (O'Scanlon/Lampitt, Downey)** Permits use of telemedicine and telehealth to authorize patients for medical cannabis and to issue written instructions for dispensing medical cannabis. \*

**S-853/A-5064 w/GR (Sweeney, Beach/Verrelli, Giblin, Danielsen)** "New Jersey Buy American Act"; requires certain State agency highway and bridge construction contracts to include iron and steel products made in U.S.

**S-890/A-1061 w/GR (Pou, Codey/Jasey, Johnson, Verrelli)** Requires DOH and DHS to identify and take appropriate steps to secure federal sources of funding to support maternal mental health.

**S-3686/A-5540 (Sweeney/ Burzichelli, Freiman)** Supplements Department of Transportation language provisions in FY 2021 Appropriations Act to provide flexibility for debt service payments.

Governor Murphy conditionally vetoed the following bill:

**S-2682/A-4016 (Gopal, Kean/Dancer, Benson, Verrelli) – CONDITIONAL** - Establishes the New Jersey Rare Disease Advisory Council.

[Copy of Statement](#)

Governor Murphy will deliver the following conditional veto to the Senate on Monday, June 28:

**S-3658/A-5641 (Cunningham, Scutari/ Chiaravalloti, Mukherji, Carter) – CONDITIONAL** - Eliminates mandatory minimum terms of imprisonment determined by Legislature to be of non-violent nature.

[Copy of Statement](#)