

Chapter 214

(House Bill 595)

AN ACT concerning

Workers' Compensation – Medical Presumptions

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

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

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

Article – Labor and Employment

9–503.

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

(1) has leukemia or prostate, rectal, throat, multiple myeloma, non–Hodgkin's lymphoma, brain, testicular, **BLADDER, KIDNEY OR RENAL CELL**, or breast cancer that is caused by contact with a toxic substance that the individual has encountered in the line of duty;

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

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

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

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

Approved by the Governor, April 30, 2019.