

SENATE  
STATE OF MINNESOTA  
NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

S.F. No. 1427

(SENATE AUTHORS: HOWE, Cwodzinski and Limmer)		
DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
02/17/2025	400	Introduction and first reading
		Referred to Judiciary and Public Safety
03/17/2025	873	Author added Limmer

1.1

A bill for an act

1.2

relating to public safety; clarifying the scope of the hometown heroes assistance

1.3

program; amending Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 299A.477, subdivision 2.

1.4

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 2024, section 299A.477, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

1.6

Subd. 2. **Program established.** The commissioner of public safety shall award a grant

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to the Minnesota Firefighter Initiative to administer a hometown heroes assistance program

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for Minnesota firefighters. The Minnesota Firefighter Initiative shall use the grant funds:

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(1) to establish and fund critical illness coverage that provides monetary support payments

1.10

to each firefighter who is diagnosed with a critical illness on or after August 1, 2021, and

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who applies for the payment. Monetary support shall be provided according to the

1.12

requirements in subdivision 3;

1.13

(2) to develop a psychotherapy program customized to address emotional trauma

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experienced by firefighters, which includes providing peer-to-peer support, and to offer all

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firefighters in the state up to five psychotherapy sessions per year under the customized

1.16

program, provided by mental health professionals;

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(3) to coordinate additional psychotherapy sessions to firefighters who need them;

1.18

(4) to develop, ~~annually~~ update, and annually ~~provide~~ make available to all firefighters

1.19

in the state at least two hours of training on critical illnesses, such as cancer and heart disease,

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and emotional trauma as causes of illness and death for firefighters; steps and best practices

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for firefighters to limit the occupational risks of cancer, heart disease, and emotional trauma;

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provide evidence-based suicide prevention strategies; and ways for firefighters to address

2.1 occupation-related emotional trauma and promote emotional wellness. The training shall  
2.2 be presented by firefighters who attend an additional course to prepare them to serve as  
2.3 trainers; and

2.4 (5) for administrative and overhead costs of the Minnesota Firefighter Initiative associated  
2.5 with conducting the activities in clauses (1) to (4).

2.6 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.