

1 **State of Arkansas**
2 **78th General Assembly**
3 **Regular Session, 1991**
4 **By: Representative Davis**

A Bill

HOUSE BILL

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 11-9-501 TO ELIMINATE THE
9 WORKERS' COMPENSATION WAITING PERIOD FOR VOLUNTEER FIRE
10 FIGHTERS; TO INCREASE THE MINIMUM WEEKLY WORKERS'
11 COMPENSATION BENEFITS FOR VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS; AND FOR
12 OTHER PURPOSES."

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14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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16 SECTION 1. Subsections (a) and (b) of Arkansas Code 11-9-501 are hereby
17 amended to read as follows:

18 "(a) Compensation to the injured employee shall not be allowed for the
19 first seven (7) days' disability resulting from injury, excluding the day of
20 injury. If a disability extends beyond that period, compensation shall
21 commence with the ninth day of disability. If a disability extends for a
22 period of two (2) weeks, compensation shall be allowed beginning the first day
23 of disability, excluding the day of injury; notwithstanding the foregoing,
24 compensation for volunteer fire fighters shall be allowed beginning the first
25 day of disability;

26 (b) Compensation payable to an injured employee for disability, other
27 than permanent partial disability as specified in subsection (d) of this
28 section, and compensation payable to surviving dependents of a deceased
29 employee, the total disability rate, shall not exceed sixty-six and two-thirds
30 percent (66 2/3%) of the employee's average weekly wage with a twenty dollar
31 (\$20.00) per week minimum, except that the weekly minimum benefit for
32 volunteer fire fighters shall be fifty dollars (\$50.00), subject to the
33 following maximums:

34 (1) For disability or death due to an injury occurring on and after
35 July 1, 1987, through December 31, 1988, the maximum weekly benefits payable

1 shall be one hundred eighty-nine dollars (\$189);

2 (2) For disability or death due to an injury occurring on and after
3 January 1, 1989, through December 31, 1989, the maximum weekly benefits
4 payable shall be sixty-six and two-thirds percent (66 2/3%) of the state
5 average weekly wage;

6 (3) For a disability or death which results from an injury occurring
7 during a calendar year beginning on or after January 1, 1990, the maximum
8 weekly benefit payable shall be seventy percent (70%) of the state average
9 weekly wage."

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11 SECTION 2. All provisions of this Act of a general and permanent nature
12 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
13 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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15 SECTION 3. If any provision of this Act or the application thereof to
16 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
17 other provisions or applications of the Act which can be given effect without
18 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
19 Act are declared to be severable.

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21 SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are
22 hereby repealed.

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