## STATE OF NEW YORK

5436

2023-2024 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

March 3, 2023

Introduced by Sens. SKOUFIS, ADDABBO, BAILEY, HARCKHAM, MAYER, MYRIE, PARKER, PERSAUD -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Local Government

AN ACT to amend the volunteer firefighters' benefit law and the volunteer ambulance workers' benefit law, in relation to increasing the amount of certain benefits

## The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Section 8 of the volunteer firefighters' benefit law, as 2 amended by chapter 401 of the laws of 2016, is amended to read as 3 follows:

§ 8. Permanent total disability benefits. In the case of total disability adjudged to be permanent the volunteer firefighter shall be paid [six] twelve hundred dollars for each week during the continuance there-7 Permanent total disability, within the meaning of this section, shall exist only if the earning capacity of the volunteer firefighter has been lost permanently and totally as the result of the injury. The 10 loss of both hands, or both arms, or both feet, or both legs, or both eyes, or any two thereof, shall, in the absence of conclusive proof to 11 12 the contrary, constitute permanent total disability, but in all other 13 cases permanent total disability shall be determined in accordance with the facts. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter, an injured volunteer firefighter disabled due to the loss or total loss of 15 use of both eyes, or both hands, or both arms, or both feet, or both legs, or any two thereof shall not suffer any diminution of such weekly 17 18 benefit by engaging in business or employment provided his or her weekly 19 earnings or wages, when combined with his or her weekly benefit shall 20 not be in excess of [eight] sixteen hundred dollars; and further 21 provided that the application of this section shall not result in 22 reduction of benefits which an injured volunteer firefighter who is 23 disabled due to the loss or total loss of use of both eyes, or both

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 hands, or both arms, or both feet, or both legs, or any two thereof 2 would otherwise be entitled to under any other provisions of this arti-3 cle.

§ 2. Section 9 of the volunteer firefighters' benefit law, as amended by chapter 523 of the laws of 2021, is amended to read as follows:

§ 9. Temporary total disability benefits. In the case of temporary 7 total disability the volunteer firefighter shall be paid one hundred twenty-five dollars for each week during the continuance thereof; 9 provided, however, that when the volunteer firefighter is injured in the 10 line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred seventy-eight to 11 December thirty-first, nineteen hundred seventy-eight, said firefighter 12 shall receive one hundred eighty dollars per week during the continuance thereof; and further provided, that when the volunteer firefighter is 13 injured in the line of duty on or after January first, nineteen hundred 14 15 seventy-nine to June thirtieth, nineteen hundred eighty-three, said 16 firefighter shall receive two hundred fifteen dollars per week during 17 the continuance thereof; and further provided, that when the volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nine-18 teen hundred eighty-three to June thirtieth, nineteen hundred eighty-19 20 four, said firefighter shall receive two hundred fifty-five dollars per 21 week during the continuance thereof; and further provided, that when the volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred eighty-four to June thirtieth, nineteen hundred 23 eighty-five, said firefighter shall receive two hundred seventy-five 24 dollars per week during the continuance thereof; and further provided, 25 26 that when the volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of duty on or 27 after July first, nineteen hundred eighty-five to June thirtieth, nine-28 teen hundred ninety, said firefighter shall receive three hundred dollars per week during the continuance thereof; and further provided, 29 30 that when the volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of duty on or 31 after July first, nineteen hundred ninety to June thirtieth, nineteen 32 hundred ninety-one, said firefighter shall receive three hundred forty 33 dollars per week during the continuance thereof; and further provided, 34 that when a volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of duty on or 35 after July first, nineteen hundred ninety-one to June thirtieth, nine-36 teen hundred ninety-two, said firefighter shall receive three hundred 37 fifty dollars per week during the continuance thereof; and further provided, that when a volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of 39 duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred ninety-two to June thirtitwo thousand twenty-one, said firefighter shall receive four 40 hundred dollars per week during the continuance thereof; and further 41 provided, that when a volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of 42 43 duty on or after July first, two thousand twenty-one to June thirtieth, two thousand twenty-three, said firefighter shall receive six hundred 45 fifty dollars per week during the continuance thereof; and further provided, that when a volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of 47 duty on or after July first, two thousand twenty-three, such firefighter 48 shall receive eight hundred dollars per week during the continuance Temporary total disability, within the meaning of this 49 thereof. section, shall exist only if the earning capacity of the volunteer fire-50 51 fighter has been lost temporarily and totally as the result of the inju-52 ry. In case of temporary total disability and permanent partial disabil-53 ity both resulting from the same injury, if the temporary total disability continues for a longer period than the number of weeks set forth in the following schedule, the period of temporary total disabili-56 ty in excess of such number of weeks shall be added to the period

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1 provided in section ten of this article: arm, thirty-two weeks; leg, 2 forty weeks; hand, thirty-two weeks; foot, thirty-two weeks; ear, twen-3 ty-five weeks; eye, twenty weeks; thumb, twenty-four weeks; first 4 finger, eighteen weeks; great toe, twelve weeks; second finger, twelve weeks; third finger, eight weeks; fourth finger, eight weeks; toe other 6 than great toe, eight weeks. In any case resulting in loss or partial 1 loss of use of arm, leg, hand, foot, ear, eye, thumb, finger or toe, 8 where the temporary total disability does not extend beyond the periods 9 above mentioned for such injury, benefits shall be limited to the sched-10 ule contained in section ten of this article.

§ 3. Section 10 of the volunteer firefighters' benefit law, subdivision 1 as amended by chapter 175 of the laws of 1962, the opening paragraph of subdivision 1 as amended by chapter 21 of the laws of 1991, paragraph (d) of subdivision 1 as amended by chapter 604 of the laws of 1989, subdivision (e) of subdivision 1 and subparagraphs 1 and 2 of paragraph (g) of subdivision 1 as amended by chapter 924 of the laws of 1990, paragraph (g) of subdivision 1 as amended by chapter 584 of the laws of 1974, the opening paragraph and subparagraph 4 of paragraph (g) of subdivision 1 and subdivision 3 as amended by chapter 476 of the laws of 2018, is amended to read as follows:

20 21 § 10. Permanent partial disability benefits. 1. In the case of disa-22 bility partial in character, but permanent in quality, the volunteer 23 firefighter shall be paid ninety-five dollars for each week for the period specified in this subdivision, provided, however, that when the 24 volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of duty on or after January 25 first, nineteen hundred seventy-eight to June thirtieth, nineteen 26 27 hundred eighty-three, such payment shall be one hundred five dollars for 28 each week, and further provided that when a volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred 29 30 eighty-three to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred eighty-31 four, such payments shall be one hundred twenty-five dollars for each 32 week and provided further that when the volunteer firefighter is injured 33 in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred eighty-four 34 to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred eighty-five such 35 payments shall be one hundred thirty-five dollars for each week and 36 provided further that when the volunteer firefighter is injured in the 37 line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred eighty-five to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred ninety such payments shall be 39 one hundred fifty dollars for each week, and provided further that when the volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of duty on or after 40 July first, nineteen hundred ninety to and including June thirtieth, 41 42 nineteen hundred ninety-one such payments shall be two hundred eighty 43 dollars for each week, and provided further that when the volunteer 44 firefighter is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nine-45 teen hundred ninety-one to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred ninety-two such payments shall be three hundred fifty dollars 46 47 for each week, and provided further that when the volunteer firefighter 48 is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred ninety-two such payments shall be four hundred dollars for each week, 49 50 provided, however, that when the volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of duty on or after March first, two thousand twenty-three such 51 52 payment shall be eight hundred dollars for each week as follows:

53 (a) Loss of member.

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1	Leg	288
	Hand	
	Foot	
	Eye	
5	Thumb	75
	First finger	
	Great toe	
	Second finger	
	Third finger	
	Toe other than great toe	
11	Fourth finger	15

more than one phalange of a digit shall be lost, the period shall be 13 the same as for the loss of the entire digit. If only the first phalange shall be lost, the period shall be one-half the period for loss of 14 15 entire digit. The period for loss or loss of use of two or more digits, 16 or one or more phalanges of two or more digits, of a hand or foot, may 17 proportioned to the period for the loss of use of the hand or foot occasioned thereby, but shall not exceed the period for the loss of a 18 19 hand or foot. If an arm or leg shall be amputated at or above the wrist 20 or ankle, the period for such loss shall be in proportion to the period 21 the loss of the arm or leg. In the case of loss of binocular vision 22 or of eighty per centum or more of the vision of an eye, the period 23 shall be the same as for the loss of the eye.

- (b) Loss of hearing. In the case of the complete loss of the hearing of one ear, sixty weeks; for the loss of hearing of both ears, one hundred fifty weeks.
- (c) Total loss of use. In the case of permanent total loss of use of a member, the period shall be the same as for the loss of the member.
- (d) Partial loss or partial loss of use. Except as above provided in this subdivision, in the case of permanent partial loss or loss of use of a member, the period shall be for the proportionate loss or loss of use of the member. Compensation for permanent partial loss of use of an eye shall be awarded on the basis of uncorrected loss of vision or corrected loss of vision resulting from an injury whichever is the greater.
- (e) Disfigurement. In the case of serious facial or head disfigurement, including a disfigurement continuous in length which is partly in the facial area and also extends into the neck region as described in this paragraph, the volunteer firefighter shall be paid in a lump sum a proper and equitable amount, which shall be determined by the workers' compensation board. If the earning capacity of the volunteer firefighter shall have been impaired, or may in the future be impaired, by any seridisfigurement in the region above the sterno clavicular articulations anterior to and including the region of the sterno mastoid muscles on either side, the volunteer firefighter shall be paid in a lump sum a proper and equitable amount which shall be determined by such board. Two or more serious disfigurements, not continuous in resulting from the same injury, if partially in the facial area and partially in such neck region, shall be deemed to be a facial disfigurement. An award, or the aggregate of the awards, to a volunteer firefighter under this paragraph shall not exceed [twenty] forty thousand dollars.
- (f) Total or partial loss or loss of use of more than one member. In any case in which there shall be a loss or loss of use of more than one member or parts of more than one member set forth above in paragraphs a

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to e, both inclusive, of this subdivision, but not amounting to permanent total disability, the periods for loss or loss of use of each such member or part thereof shall run consecutively.

- (g) Other cases. In all other cases of permanent partial disability the volunteer firefighter shall be paid for each week during the continuance thereof, as follows:
- 7 1. If the percentage of loss of earning capacity is seventy-five per 8 centum, or greater, he or she shall be paid ninety-five dollars for each 9 week, provided, however, that when the volunteer firefighter is injured 10 in the line of duty on or after January first, nineteen hundred seven-11 ty-eight to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred eighty-three, 12 such payment shall be one hundred five dollars for each week provided, 13 however, that when the volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred eighty-three to and 14 including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred eighty-four, such payment 15 shall be one hundred twenty-five dollars for each week provided, howev-16 17 er, that when the volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred eighty-four to and including 18 19 June thirtieth, nineteen hundred eighty-five such payment shall be one 20 hundred thirty-five dollars for each week, provided, however, that when 21 the volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred eighty-five to and including June thirti-23 eth, nineteen hundred ninety such payment shall be one hundred fifty dollars for each week, provided, however, that when the volunteer fire-24 25 fighter is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen 26 hundred ninety to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred nine-27 ty-one such payment shall be two hundred eighty dollars for each week, 28 and provided further that when the volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred ninety-one to 29 30 including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred ninety-two such payment 31 shall be three hundred fifty dollars for each week, and provided further 32 that when the volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of duty on or 33 after July first, nineteen hundred ninety-two such payment shall be four 34 hundred dollars for each week; provided, however, that when the volun-35 teer firefighter is injured in the line of duty on or after March first, 36 two thousand twenty-three such payment shall be eight hundred dollars 37 for each week;
  - 2. If the percentage of loss of earning capacity is fifty per centum, or greater, but less than seventy-five per centum, he or she shall be paid sixty-three dollars and thirty-three cents for each week, provided, however, that when the volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of duty on or after January first, nineteen hundred seventy-eight to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred eighty-three, such payment shall be seventy dollars for each week, provided, however, that when the volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred eighty-three to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred eighty-four such payment shall be eighty-three dollars and thirty-three cents for each week, provided, however, that when the volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred eighty-four, to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred eighty-five, such payment shall be ninety dollars for each week, provided, however, that when the volunteer firefighter injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred eighty-five to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred ninety such payment shall be one hundred dollars for each week, provided, however, that when the volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of

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duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred ninety to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred ninety-one such payment shall be one eighty-six dollars and seventy-six cents for each week, provided, however, that when the volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred ninety-one to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred ninety-two such payment shall 7 be two hundred thirty-four dollars and fifty cents for each week, provided, however, that when the volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred ninety-two such 9 10 payment shall be two hundred sixty-eight dollars for each week, provided, however, that when the volunteer firefighter is injured in the 12 line of duty on or after March first, two thousand twenty-three, such payment shall be five hundred thirty-six dollars for each week; 13

- 3. If the percentage of loss of earning capacity is twenty-five per centum, or greater, but less than fifty per centum, he shall be paid [thirty] sixty dollars for each week;
- 4. If the percentage of loss of earning capacity is less than twenty-five per centum, he or she shall not be paid any weekly benefit. Permanent partial disability, within the meaning of this paragraph, shall exist only if the earning capacity of the volunteer firefighter has been permanently and partially lost as the result of the injury. The workers' compensation board shall determine the degree of such disability and such board may reconsider such degree on its own motion or upon application of any party in interest.
- 2. An award made to a claimant under this section shall in case of death arising from causes other than the injury be payable to and for the benefit of the persons following:
- (a) If there be a surviving spouse and no child of the deceased under the age of eighteen years, to such spouse.
- (b) If there be a surviving spouse and surviving child or children of the deceased under the age of eighteen years, one-half shall be payable to the surviving spouse and the other half to the surviving child or children.
- (c) If there be a surviving child or children of the deceased under the age of eighteen years, but no surviving spouse, then to such child or children.
- (d) If there be no surviving spouse and no surviving child or children of the deceased under the age of eighteen years, then to such dependent or dependents as defined in section seven of this chapter, as directed by the [workmen's] workers' compensation board; and if there shall be no such dependents, then to the estate of such deceased in an amount not exceeding reasonable funeral expenses as provided in subdivision one of section seven of this chapter, or, if there be no estate, to the person or persons paying the funeral expenses of such deceased in an amount not exceeding reasonable funeral expenses as provided in such subdivision one.
- 3. An award for disability may be made after the death of the volunteer firefighter.
- § 4. Subdivision 1 of section 11 of the volunteer firefighters' benefit law, as amended by chapter 924 of the laws of 1990, is amended to read as follows:
- 1. If the percentage of loss of earning capacity is seventy-five per centum, or greater, he or she shall be paid ninety-five dollars for each week, provided, however, that when the volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of duty on or after January first, nineteen hundred seventy-eight to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred eighty-three,

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such payment shall be one hundred five dollars for each week, provided, however, that when the volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred eighty-three to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred eighty-four, such payment 5 shall be one hundred twenty-five dollars for each week, provided, however, that when the volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of duty 7 on or after July first, nineteen hundred eighty-four to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred eighty-five, such payment shall be one 9 hundred thirty-five dollars for each week, provided, however, that when 10 the volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of duty on or after 11 July first, nineteen hundred eighty-five to and including June thirti-12 eth, nineteen hundred ninety such payment shall be one hundred fifty dollars for each week, provided, however, that when the volunteer fire-13 14 fighter is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen 15 hundred ninety to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred ninety-one such payment shall be two hundred eighty dollars for each week, 16 17 provided, however, that when the volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred ninety-one to and 18 including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred ninety-two such payment shall 19 be three hundred fifty dollars for each week, provided, however, 20 21 when the volunteer firefighter is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred ninety-two such payment shall be four hundred dollars for each week; provided, however, that when the volun-23 teer firefighter is injured in the line of duty on or after March first, 24 two thousand twenty-three such payment shall be eight hundred dollars 25 26 for each week;

- § 5. Section 8 of the volunteer ambulance workers' benefit law, as amended by chapter 401 of the laws of 2016, is amended to read as follows:
- 29 30 § 8. Permanent total disability benefits. In the case of total disa-31 bility adjudged to be permanent the volunteer ambulance worker shall be 32 paid [six] twelve hundred dollars for each week during the continuance 33 thereof. Permanent total disability, within the meaning of this section, 34 shall exist only if the earning capacity of the volunteer ambulance 35 worker has been lost permanently and totally as the result of the inju-36 ry. The loss of both hands, or both arms, or both feet, or both legs, or 37 both eyes, or any two thereof, shall, in the absence of conclusive proof to the contrary, constitute permanent total disability, but in all other 39 cases permanent total disability shall be determined in accordance with 40 the facts. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter, an injured volunteer ambulance worker disabled due to the loss or total 41 42 loss of use of both eyes, or both hands, or both arms, or both feet, or 43 both legs, or any two thereof shall not suffer any diminution of such weekly benefit by engaging in business or employment provided his or her 45 weekly earnings or wages, when combined with his weekly benefit shall 46 not be in excess of [eight] sixteen hundred dollars; and further 47 provided that the application of this section shall not result in reduction of benefits which an injured volunteer ambulance worker who is 48 disabled due to the loss or total loss of use of both eyes, or both 49 hands, or both arms, or both feet, or both legs, or any two thereof 50 51 would otherwise be entitled to under any other provisions of this arti-52 cle.
- § 6. Section 9 of the volunteer ambulance workers' benefit law, as amended by chapter 523 of the laws of 2021, is amended to read as follows:

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§ 9. Temporary total disability benefits. In the case of temporary total disability the volunteer ambulance worker shall be paid three 3 hundred dollars for each week during the continuance thereof; provided, however, that when the volunteer ambulance worker is injured in the line 5 of duty on or after the effective date of this chapter to June thirtieth, nineteen hundred ninety; further provided, that when the volunteer 7 ambulance worker is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred ninety to June thirtieth, nineteen hundred ninety-one, 9 said ambulance worker shall receive three hundred forty dollars per week 10 during the continuance thereof, and further provided, that when a volun-11 teer ambulance worker is injured in the line of duty on or after July 12 first, nineteen hundred ninety-one to June thirtieth, nineteen hundred ninety-two, said ambulance worker shall receive three hundred fifty 13 14 dollars per week during the continuance thereof; provided further that 15 when a volunteer ambulance worker is injured in the line of duty on or 16 after July first, nineteen hundred ninety-two to June thirtieth, 17 thousand twenty-one, such ambulance worker shall be paid four hundred 18 dollars for each week during the continuance thereof; provided further that when a volunteer ambulance worker is injured in the line of duty on 19 20 after July first, two thousand twenty-one to June thirtieth, two 21 thousand twenty-three such ambulance worker shall be paid six hundred fifty dollars for each week during the continuance thereof; provided further that when a volunteer ambulance worker is injured in the line of 23 duty on or after July first, two thousand twenty-three such ambulance 24 25 worker shall be paid eight hundred dollars for each week during the 26 continuance thereof. Temporary total disability, within the meaning of 27 this section, shall exist only if the earning capacity of the volunteer 28 ambulance worker has been lost temporarily and totally as the result of 29 the injury. In case of temporary total disability and permanent partial 30 disability both resulting from the same injury, if the temporary total 31 disability continues for a longer period than the number of weeks set 32 forth in the following schedule, the period of temporary total disabili-33 ty in excess of such number of weeks shall be added to the period 34 provided in section ten of this chapter: arm, thirty-two weeks; leg, forty weeks; hand, thirty-two weeks; foot, thirty-two weeks; ear, twen-36 ty-five weeks; eye, twenty weeks; thumb, twenty-four weeks; first 37 finger, eighteen weeks; great toe, twelve weeks; second finger, twelve weeks; third finger, eight weeks, fourth finger, eight weeks; toe other 39 than great toe, eight weeks. In any case resulting in loss or partial loss of use of arm, leg, hand, foot, ear, eye, thumb, finger or toe, 40 where the temporary total disability does not extend beyond the periods 41 42 above mentioned for such injury, benefits shall be limited to the sched-43 ule contained in section ten of this chapter. 44

- 7. Subdivision 1 of section 10 of the volunteer ambulance workers' benefit law, as amended by chapter 604 of the laws of 1989, the opening paragraph as amended by chapter 21 of the laws of 1991, paragraph e and subparagraphs 1 and 2 of paragraph g as amended by chapter 924 of the laws of 1990, is amended to read as follows:
- 1. In the case of disability partial in character, but permanent in quality, the volunteer ambulance worker, injured in the line of duty shall be paid one hundred fifty dollars for each week for the period 52 specified in this subdivision, provided, however, that when the volunteer ambulance worker is injured in the line of duty on or after the effective date of this chapter to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred ninety, and provided further that when the volunteer ambulance 56 worker is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen

hundred ninety to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred ninety-one such payments shall be two hundred eighty dollars for each week, and provided further that when the volunteer ambulance worker is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred ninety-one to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred ninety-two such payments shall be three hundred fifty dollars for each week; and provided further that when the volunteer ambulance worker is injured in 7 the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred ninety-two such payments shall be four hundred dollars for each week; provided 9 10 further that when a volunteer ambulance worker is injured in the line of duty on or after March first, two thousand twenty-three such ambulance worker shall be paid eight hundred dollars for each week as follows:

a. Loss of member.

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14	Member lost	Number of	weeks
15	Arm		312
16	Leg		288
17	Hand		244
18	Foot		
19	Eye		160
20	Thumb		75
21	First finger		46
22	Great toe		38
23	Second finger		30
24	Third finger		25
25	Toe other than great toe		16
26	Fourth finger		15

If more than one phalange of a digit shall be lost, the period shall be the same as for the loss of the entire digit. If only the first phalange shall be lost, the period shall be one-half the period for loss of the entire digit. The period for loss or loss of use of two or more digits, 31 or one or more phalanges of two or more digits, of a hand or foot, may 32 be proportioned to the period for the loss of use of the hand or foot occasioned thereby, but shall not exceed the period for the loss of a 34 hand or foot. If an arm or leg shall be amputated at or above the wrist or ankle, the period for such loss shall be in proportion to the period for the loss of the arm or leg. In the case of loss of binocular vision of eighty per centum or more of the vision of an eye, the period shall be the same as for the loss of the eye.

- b. Loss of hearing. In the case of the complete loss of the hearing of one ear, sixty weeks; for the loss of hearing of both ears, one hundred fifty weeks.
- c. Total loss of use. In the case of permanent total loss of use of a member, the compensation shall be the same as for the loss of member.
- d. Partial loss or partial loss of use. Except as above provided in this subdivision, in the case of permanent partial loss or loss of use of a member, the period shall be for the proportionate loss or loss of use of the member. Compensation for permanent partial loss of use of an eye shall be awarded on the basis of uncorrected loss of vision or corrected loss of vision resulting from an injury which ever is greater.
- e. Disfigurement. In the case of serious facial or head disfigurement, including a disfigurement continuous in length which is partly in the facial area and also extends into the neck region as described in this 54 paragraph, the volunteer ambulance worker shall be paid in a lump sum a 55 proper and equitable amount, which shall be determined by the workers' 56 compensation board. If the earning capacity of the volunteer ambulance

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worker shall have been impaired, or may in the future be impaired, by any serious disfigurement in the region above the sterno clavicular articulations anterior to and including the region of the sterno cleido mastoid muscles on either side, the volunteer ambulance worker shall be 5 paid in a lump sum a proper and equitable amount which shall be determined by such board. Two or more serious disfigurements, not continuous 7 in length, resulting from the same injury, if partially in the facial area and partially in such neck region, shall be deemed to be a facial disfigurement. An award, or the aggregate of the awards, to a volunteer 10 ambulance worker under this paragraph shall not exceed [twenty] forty thousand dollars.

- f. Total or partial loss or loss of use of more than one member. any case in which there shall be a loss or loss of use of more than one member or parts of more than one member set forth above in paragraphs a e, both inclusive, of this subdivision, but not amounting to permanent total disability, the periods for loss or loss of use of each such member or part thereof shall run consecutively.
- g. Other cases. In all other cases of permanent partial disability the volunteer ambulance worker shall be paid for each week, during the continuance thereof, as follows:
- (1) If the percentage of loss of earning capacity is seventy-five per centum, or greater, he or she shall be paid one hundred fifty dollars for each week, provided, however, that the volunteer ambulance worker is injured in the line of duty on or after the effective date of this chapter to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred ninety, provided, however, that when the volunteer ambulance worker is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred ninety to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred ninety-one such payment shall be two hundred eighty dollars for each week, and provided further that when the volunteer ambulance worker is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred ninety-one to and including June thirtieth, 32 nineteen hundred ninety-two such payment shall be three hundred fifty dollars for each week; and provided further that when the volunteer ambulance worker is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred ninety-two such payments shall be four hundred dollars each week; provided further that when a volunteer ambulance worker is injured in the line of duty on or after March first, two thousand twenty-three such ambulance worker shall be paid eight hundred dollars for each week during the continuance thereof.
- (2) If the percentage of loss of earning capacity is fifty per centum, or greater, but less than seventy-five per centum, he or she shall be paid one hundred dollars for each week, provided, however, that the volunteer ambulance worker is injured in the line of duty on or after the effective date of this chapter to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred ninety, provided, however, that when the volunteer ambulance worker is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred ninety to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred ninety-one, such payment shall be one hundred eighty-six dollars and seventy-six cents for each week, provided, however, that when the volunteer ambulance worker is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred ninety-one to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred ninety-two, such payment shall be two hundred thirtyfour dollars and fifty cents for each week; provided, however, that when the volunteer ambulance worker is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred ninety-two, such payment shall be two 56 hundred sixty-eight dollars for each week, provided, however, that when

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the volunteer ambulance worker is injured in the line of duty on or after March first, two thousand twenty-three, such payment shall be five hundred thirty-six dollars for each week.

- If the percentage of loss of earning capacity is twenty-five percentum, or greater, but less than fifty per centum, he or she shall be paid [thirty] sixty dollars for each week.
- (4) If the percentage of loss of earning capacity is less than twenty-five per centum, he or she shall not be paid any weekly benefit.
- Permanent partial disability, within the meaning of this paragraph, shall exist only if the earning capacity of the volunteer ambulance worker has been permanently and partially lost as the result of injury. The workers' compensation board shall determine the degree of such disability and such board may reconsider such degree on its own motion or upon application of any party in interest.
- 8. Section 11 of the volunteer ambulance workers' benefit law, as amended by chapter 604 of the laws of 1989, subdivisions 1 and 2 as amended by chapter 924 of the laws of 1990, is amended to read as follows:
- § 11. Temporary partial disability benefits. In the case of temporary partial disability the volunteer ambulance worker shall be paid for each week during the continuance thereof, as follows:
- If the percentage of loss of earning capacity is seventy-five per 23 centum, or greater, he or she shall be paid one hundred fifty dollars for each week, provided, however, that the volunteer ambulance worker is 24 injured in the line of duty on or after the effective date of this chapter to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred ninety, provided, however, that when the volunteer ambulance worker is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred ninety to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred ninety-one, such payment shall be two hundred eighty dollars for each week, provided, however, that when the 30 31 volunteer ambulance worker is injured in the line of duty on or after 32 July first, nineteen hundred ninety-one to and including June thirtieth, 33 nineteen hundred ninety-two, such payment shall be three hundred fifty 34 dollars for each week; and provided further that when the volunteer 35 ambulance worker is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, 36 nineteen hundred ninety-two such payments shall be four hundred dollars for each week; provided further that when a volunteer ambulance worker is injured in the line of duty on or after March first, two thousand twenty-three such ambulance worker shall be paid eight hundred dollars for each week.
- 2. If the percentage of loss of earning capacity is fifty per centum, greater, but less than seventy-five per centum, he or she shall be paid one hundred dollars for each week, provided, however, that the volunteer ambulance worker is injured in the line of duty on or after the effective date of this chapter to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred ninety, provided, however, that when the volunteer ambulance worker is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred ninety to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred ninety-one, such payment shall be one hundred eighty-six dollars and seventy-six cents for each week, provided, however, that when the volunteer ambulance worker is injured in the line of duty on or after July first, nineteen hundred ninety-one to and including June thirtieth, nineteen hundred ninety-two, such payment shall be two hundred thirtyfour dollars and fifty cents for each week; provided, however, that when the volunteer ambulance worker is injured in the line of duty on or 56 after July first, nineteen hundred ninety-two, such payment shall be two

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hundred sixty-eight dollars for each week, provided, however, that when the volunteer ambulance worker is injured in the line of duty on or after March first, two thousand twenty-three, such payment shall be five hundred thirty-six dollars for each week.

- 3. If the percentage of loss of earning capacity is twenty-five per centum, or greater, but less than fifty per centum, he or she shall be paid [thirty] sixty dollars for each week.
- 4. If the percentage of loss of earning capacity is less than twenty-five per centum, he or she shall not be paid any weekly benefit.
- Temporary partial disability, within the meaning of this section, shall exist only if the earning capacity of the volunteer ambulance worker has been temporarily and partially lost as the result of the injury. The workers' compensation board shall determine the degree of such disability and such board may reconsider such degree on its own motion or upon application of any party in interest.
  - § 9. This act shall take effect immediately.