

CHAPTER 220

AN ACT concerning group life insurance in certain volunteer fire departments and amending N.J.S.40A:14-37 and N.J.S.40A:10-29.

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

1. N.J.S.40A:14-37 is amended to read as follows:

Volunteer firefighters' life insurance.

40A:14-37. a. In any fire district maintaining a volunteer fire department, or wherein there shall exist one or more incorporated volunteer fire companies affording fire protection to the fire district, the membership whereof are serving under the jurisdiction of and with the consent of the fire district and have formed, or may hereafter form themselves into a group or groups, for the purpose of obtaining the advantages of the group plan of life insurance, in any of the plans now in vogue, or any plan which may hereafter be inaugurated, it shall be lawful for the board of commissioners of such fire district, by resolution, to appropriate moneys for the purpose of defraying the cost of such insurance and to pay the premiums therefor.

No board of commissioners of any fire district shall pay any premiums on account of any policy of group life insurance as provided herein where the amount payable upon the death of each assured under the terms of the policy exceeds the sum of \$25,000.

b. The board of commissioners of a fire district may, by resolution, contract for and appropriate money to defray the cost of any individual life insurance policy which provides cash value, non-forfeiture benefits and loan provisions for volunteer firefighters in its jurisdiction. Any such policy may provide for additional benefits by means of a rider.

The amount payable upon the death of each insured on any individual life insurance policy contracted for pursuant to the provisions of this section shall not exceed the sum of \$16,500.

The Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs, after consultation with the Commissioner of Banking and Insurance, shall promulgate rules and regulations in accordance with the provisions of the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), to regulate the provision of insurance under this subsection.

2. N.J.S.40A:10-29 is amended to read as follows:

Group life insurance plans.

40A:10-29. In addition to the insurance required under chapter 15 of Title 34 of the Revised Statutes, a municipality maintaining a volunteer fire department, or in which there are one or more incorporated volunteer fire companies whose members have or shall form themselves into a group or groups for the purpose of obtaining a group life insurance plan with any insurance company authorized to do business in New Jersey, may appropriate moneys to defray the cost of such insurance and pay the premiums therefor.

A municipality shall not undertake the cost nor pay the premiums on any policy of group life insurance where the amount payable upon the death of each assured exceeds the amount of \$25,000.

3. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved January 3, 2008.