

CHAPTER 56

AN ACT concerning Junior Firemen's Auxiliaries and amending N.J.S.40A:14-98.

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

1. N.J.S.40A:14-98 is amended to read as follows:

Rules, regulations governing Junior Firemen's Auxiliary.

40A:14-98. a. The governing body of the municipality or the board of commissioners of the fire district shall, before authorizing the establishment of any Junior Firemen's Auxiliary, formulate rules and regulations to govern the activities of the auxiliary. The rules and regulations shall provide for the training of the auxiliary for eventual membership in the volunteer fire department of the municipality or fire district or in any such volunteer fire company or companies affording fire protection therein, and shall further provide that no junior fireman shall be required to perform duties which would expose him to the same degree of hazard as a regular member of a volunteer fire company.

b. If the governing body or board of commissioners, as the case may be, so provide in the rules and regulations governing the auxiliary, a junior fireman 16 years of age or older may perform non-hazardous support duties at a fire site; provided: (1) the junior fireman has been appropriately and adequately trained to perform the support duties; (2) the junior fireman is appropriately and adequately supervised in performing those support duties at the fire site; (3) the junior fireman's parent or guardian has provided written permission allowing the junior fireman to perform those support duties; and (4) the governing body or board of commissioners, as the case may be, provides insurance coverage for the junior fireman that is identical to that provided for the regular members of the volunteer fire department or fire district.

c. Activities of junior firemen under 16 years of age shall be limited to (1) attending meetings of the Junior Firemen's Auxiliary; (2) receiving instruction; (3) participating in training that does not involve fire, smoke, toxic or noxious gas, or hazardous materials or substances; and (4) observing firefighting activities, while under supervision.

2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the third month following enactment.

Approved April 20, 2011.