



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB5253

Introduced 2/10/2026, by Rep. Dan Swanson

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

70 ILCS 705/6

from Ch. 127 1/2, par. 26

Amends the Fire Protection District Act. Provides that a member of the board of trustees of a fire protection district having fewer than 4 full-time paid firemen may be compensated a sum not to exceed \$1,500 (rather than \$1,000) per annum. Provides that a member of the board of trustees of a fire protection district having more than 3 but fewer than 10 full-time paid firemen may be compensated a sum not to exceed \$2,000 (rather than \$1,500) per annum. Provides that a member of the board of trustees of a fire protection district having 10 or more full-time paid firemen may be compensated a sum not to exceed \$2,500 (rather than \$2,000) per annum.

LRB104 19370 RTM 32818 b

1 AN ACT concerning local government.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Fire Protection District Act is amended by
5 changing Section 6 as follows:

6 (70 ILCS 705/6) (from Ch. 127 1/2, par. 26)

7 Sec. 6. Board of trustees; powers.

8 (a) The trustees shall constitute a board of trustees for
9 the district for which they are appointed, which board of
10 trustees is declared to be the corporate authority of the fire
11 protection district, and shall exercise all of the powers and
12 control all the affairs and property of such district.

13 The board of trustees at their initial meeting and at
14 their first meeting following the commencement of the term of
15 any trustee shall elect one of their number as president and
16 one of their number as secretary and shall elect a treasurer
17 for the district, who may be one of the trustees or may be any
18 other citizen of the district and who shall hold office during
19 the pleasure of the board and who shall give such bond as may
20 be required by the board.

21 (b) Except as otherwise provided in Sections 16.01 through
22 16.18, the board may appoint and enter into a multi-year
23 contract not exceeding 3 years with a fire chief and may

1 appoint any firemen that may be necessary for the district,
2 who shall hold office during the pleasure of the board and who
3 shall give any bond that the board may require. The board may
4 prescribe the duties and fix the compensation of all the
5 officers and employees of the fire protection district.

6 (c) A member of the board of trustees of a fire protection
7 district may be compensated as follows: in a district having
8 fewer than 4 full-time ~~full-time~~ paid firemen, a sum not to
9 exceed \$1,500 ~~\$1,000~~ per annum; in a district having more than
10 3 but fewer ~~less~~ than 10 full-time ~~full-time~~ paid firemen, a
11 sum not to exceed \$2,000 ~~\$1,500~~ per annum; in a district having
12 either 10 or more full-time ~~full-time~~ paid firemen, a sum not
13 to exceed \$2,500 ~~\$2,000~~ per annum. In addition, fire districts
14 that operate an ambulance service pursuant to authorization by
15 referendum, as provided in Section 22, may pay trustees an
16 additional annual compensation not to exceed 50% of the amount
17 otherwise authorized herein. The additional compensation shall
18 be an administrative expense of the ambulance service and
19 shall be paid from revenues raised by the ambulance tax levy.
20 In addition, any trustee of a fire protection district who
21 completes a training program on fire protection district
22 administration approved by the Office of the State Fire
23 Marshal may receive additional compensation above the
24 compensation otherwise provided in this Section. The
25 additional compensation shall be equal to 50% of such other
26 compensation. In order to continue to receive the additional

1 compensation, the trustee must attend annual training approved
2 by the Office of the State Fire Marshal on a continuing basis
3 thereafter.

4 (d) The trustees also have the express power to execute a
5 note or notes and to execute a mortgage or trust deed to secure
6 the payment of such note or notes; such trust deed or mortgage
7 shall cover real estate, or some part thereof, or personal
8 property owned by the district and the lien of the mortgage
9 shall apply to the real estate or personal property so
10 mortgaged by the district, and the proceeds of the note or
11 notes may be used in the acquisition of personal property or of
12 real estate or in the erection of improvements on such real
13 estate.

14 The trustees have express power to purchase either real
15 estate or personal property to be used for the purposes of the
16 fire protection district through contracts which provide for
17 the consideration for such purchase to be paid through
18 installments to be made at stated intervals during a certain
19 period of time, but, in no case, shall such contracts provide
20 for the consideration to be paid during a period of time in
21 excess of 25 years.

22 (e) The trustees have express power to provide for the
23 benefit of its employees, volunteer firemen and paid firemen,
24 group life, health, accident, hospital and medical insurance,
25 or any combination thereof; and to pay for all or any portion
26 of the premiums on such insurance. Such insurance may include

1 provisions for employees who rely on treatment by spiritual
2 means alone through prayer for healing in accord with the
3 tenets and practice of a well recognized religious
4 denomination.

5 (f) To encourage continued service with the district, the
6 board of trustees has the express power to award monetary
7 incentives, not to exceed \$240 per year, to volunteer
8 firefighters of the district based on the length of service.
9 To be eligible for the incentives, the volunteer firefighters
10 must have at least 5 years of service with the district. The
11 amount of the incentives may not be greater than 2% of the
12 annual levy amount when all incentive awards are combined.

13 (g) The board of trustees has express power to change the
14 corporate name of the fire protection district by ordinance,
15 provided that notification of any change is given to the
16 circuit clerk and the Office of the State Fire Marshal.

17 (h) The board of trustees may impose reasonable civil
18 penalties on individuals who repeatedly cause false fire
19 alarms.

20 (i) The board of trustees has full power to pass all
21 necessary ordinances, and rules and regulations for the proper
22 management and conduct of the business of the board of
23 trustees of the fire protection district for carrying into
24 effect the objects for which the district was formed.

25 (Source: P.A. 95-331, eff. 8-21-07; 95-799, eff. 1-1-09;
26 96-1000, eff. 7-2-10.)