



## 103RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2023 and 2024

HB5194

Introduced 2/9/2024, by Rep. Brad Halbrook

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

35 ILCS 5/241 new

Amends the Illinois Income Tax Act. Creates an income tax credit for each qualified individual who serves as a volunteer first responder for at least 9 months during the taxable year and who incurs expenses for the purchase of eligible equipment that is used by the individual when training as a volunteer first responder or incurs any other training expenses associated with the individual's service as a volunteer first responder. Effective immediately.

LRB103 38379 HLH 68514 b

1 AN ACT concerning revenue.

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

4 Section 5. The Illinois Income Tax Act is amended by  
5 adding Section 241 as follows:

6 (35 ILCS 5/241 new)

7 Sec. 241. First responder training expense tax credit.

8 (a) For taxable years beginning on or after January 1,  
9 2025, each qualified individual who serves as a volunteer  
10 first responder for at least 9 months during the taxable year  
11 and who, during the taxable year, incurs expenses for the  
12 purchase of eligible equipment that is used by the individual  
13 when training as a volunteer first responder or incurs any  
14 other training expenses associated with the individual's  
15 service as a volunteer first responder may apply to the  
16 Department for a credit against the taxes imposed by  
17 subsections (a) and (b) of Section 201 equal to the amount of  
18 those expenses, but not to exceed \$1,000 per taxpayer in any  
19 taxable year. The aggregate amount of all tax credits awarded  
20 by the Department under this Section in any calendar year may  
21 not exceed \$5,000,000. Credits shall be awarded on a  
22 first-come, first-served basis.

23 (b) A credit under this Section may not reduce a

1 taxpayer's liability to less than zero. If the amount of the  
2 credit exceeds the tax liability for the year, the excess may  
3 be carried forward and applied to the tax liability of the 5  
4 taxable years following the excess credit year. The tax credit  
5 shall be applied to the earliest year for which there is a tax  
6 liability. If there are credits for more than one year that are  
7 available to offset a liability, the earlier credit shall be  
8 applied first.

9 (c) By January 24 of each year, the Office of the State  
10 Fire Marshal shall provide the Department of Revenue an  
11 electronic file with the name of each volunteer first  
12 responder who qualifies for a tax credit under this Section  
13 for the immediately preceding calendar year. The chief of the  
14 fire department, fire protection district, or fire protection  
15 association shall be responsible for notifying the State Fire  
16 Marshal of the volunteer emergency workers who met the  
17 requirements of this Section during the immediately preceding  
18 calendar year by January 12 of the current year. The chief of  
19 the fire department, fire protection district, or fire  
20 protection association shall be responsible for the  
21 verification and accuracy of their submission to the State  
22 Fire Marshal under this subsection.

23 (d) As used in this Section:

24 "Eligible equipment" means equipment used to perform the  
25 job duties of a first responder, including, but not limited  
26 to, first aid kits, boots, protective gloves, protective

1 glasses, emergency lighting, helmets, or ear plugs.

2 "Volunteer first responder" means a person who serves as a  
3 member, other than on a full-time career basis, of a fire  
4 department, fire protection district, or fire protection  
5 association that has a Fire Department Identification Number  
6 issued by the Office of the State Fire Marshal and who does not  
7 serve as a member, on a full-time career basis, of another fire  
8 department, fire protection district, fire protection  
9 association, or governmental entity.

10 (f) The Department shall adopt rules to implement and  
11 administer this Section, including rules concerning  
12 applications for the tax credit.

13 (g) This Section is exempt from the provisions of Section  
14 250.

15 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
16 becoming law.