AN EXPEDITED ACT to:

(1) allow a fire and rescue department volunteer to designate a beneficiary to receive the volunteer’s death benefit payment; and

(2) generally amend the law regarding benefits to fire and rescue volunteers.

By amending
Montgomery County Code
Chapter 21, Fire and Rescue Services
Section 21-21

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following Act:
Sec. 1. Section 21-21 is amended as follows:

21-21. Length of service award program for volunteers

* * *

(f) Death benefit.

(1) A local fire and rescue department [volunteer's surviving spouse or domestic partner (or estate if no spouse or partner survives)] volunteer may designate a beneficiary to receive on the volunteer's death a $5,000 death benefit. If the volunteer does not designate a beneficiary or if the designated beneficiary does not survive the volunteer, the death benefit must be paid to the volunteer's surviving spouse or domestic partner or the volunteer's estate if no spouse or partner survives. The designated beneficiary or the volunteer's surviving spouse or domestic partner or estate, whichever applies, qualifies on the volunteer's death for a $5,000 death benefit if:

(A) the designated beneficiary or the surviving spouse or partner [(or estate[]), whichever applies, submits an application for the benefit within one year [of] after the volunteer's death; and

(B) the volunteer met the:

(i) years-of-service requirement for a length of service benefit under subsection (c); or

(ii) requirements for a disability benefit under subsection (d).

* * *
Sec. 2. Expedited Effective Date.

The Council declares that this legislation is necessary for the immediate protection of the public interest. This Act takes effect on July 1, 2008.

Approved:

Michael J. Knapp, President, County Council

Date

Isiah Leggett, County Executive

Date

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council

Date