

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE MINUTES

SB508

Bill as
Introduced

SB 508 - AS INTRODUCED

2018 SESSION

18-2908
08/06

SENATE BILL **508**

AN ACT establishing a committee to study the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) among first responders.

SPONSORS: Sen. Avard, Dist 12; Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19; Sen. Bradley, Dist 3; Sen. Carson, Dist 14; Sen. D'Allesandro, Dist 20; Sen. Fuller Clark, Dist 21; Sen. Gannon, Dist 23; Sen. Giuda, Dist 2; Sen. Innis, Dist 24; Sen. Ward, Dist 8; Sen. Watters, Dist 4; Rep. Chandler, Carr. 1; Rep. Carr, Hills. 26; Rep. Proulx, Hills. 44; Rep. J. Belanger, Hills. 27; Rep. M. McCarthy, Hills. 29

COMMITTEE: Public and Municipal Affairs

ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a committee to study the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder among first responders.

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.
 Matter removed from current law appears ~~[in brackets and struck through.]~~
 Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Eighteen

AN ACT establishing a committee to study the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) among first responders.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 1 Committee Established. There is established a committee to study the prevalence of post-
2 traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) among first responders.

3 2 Membership and Compensation.

4 I. The members of the committee shall be as follows:

5 (a) Three members of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.

6 (b) Three members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the
7 house of representatives.

8 II. Members of the committee shall receive mileage at the legislative rate when attending to
9 the duties of the committee.

10 3 Duties. The committee shall study the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder among
11 first responders, including police officers, fire persons, and emergency medical service providers,
12 and consider how to mitigate cases of PTSD in those fields.

13 4 Chairperson; Quorum. The members of the study committee shall elect a chairperson from
14 among the members. The first meeting of the committee shall be called by the first-named senate
15 member. The first meeting of the committee shall be held within 45 days of the effective date of this
16 section. Four members of the committee shall constitute a quorum.

17 5 Report. The committee shall report its findings and any recommendations for proposed
18 legislation to the president of the senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, the senate
19 clerk, the house clerk, the governor, and the state library on or before November 1, 2018.

20 6 Effective Date. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Amendments



Amendment to SB 508

1 Amend the title of the bill by replacing it with the following:

2

3 AN ACT establishing a committee to study the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder
4 (PTSD) and other related disorders among first responders.

5

6 Amend the bill by replacing section 1-3 with the following:

7

8 1 Committee Established. There is established a committee to study the prevalence of post-
9 traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and other related disorders among first responders.

10 2 Membership and Compensation.

11 I. The members of the committee shall be as follows:

12 (a) Two members of the senate, appointed by the president of the senate.

13 (b) Three members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the
14 house of representatives.

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16 the duties of the committee.

17 3 Duties. The committee shall study the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder and other
18 related disorders among first responders, including police officers, fire persons, and emergency
19 medical service providers, and consider how to mitigate cases of PTSD and other related disorders
20 in those fields.



2018-0535s

AMENDED ANALYSIS

This bill establishes a committee to study the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder and other related disorders among first responders.

Committee Minutes

Senate Public and Municipal Affairs Committee

Tricia Melillo 271-3093

SB 508, establishing a committee to study the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) among first responders.

Hearing Date: January 17, 2018

Time Opened: 9:46 a.m.

Time Closed: 10:16 a.m.

Members of the Committee Present: Senators Gray, Ward, Birdsell, Kahn and Woodburn

Members of the Committee Absent : None

Bill Analysis: This bill establishes a committee to study the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder among first responders.

Sponsors:

Sen. Avard

Sen. Birdsell

Sen. Bradley

Sen. Carson

Sen. D'Allesandro

Sen. Fuller Clark

Sen. Gannon

Sen. Giuda

Sen. Innis

Sen. Ward

Sen. Watters

Rep. Chandler

Rep. Carr

Rep. Proulx

Rep. J. Belanger

Rep. M. McCarthy

Who supports the bill: Senator Sharon Carson, Senator Bob Giuda, Senator Fuller Clark, Senator David Watters, Senator Kevin Avard, Senator Regina Birdsell, Senator Ruth Ward, Tom Prasol, NH Troopers Association, Bob Blaisdell, NH Police Association, Senator Bill Gannon, Bill McQuillen, PFFNH, David Scalco, PFFNH, David Goldstein, NH Chiefs, Russell Conte, NHSP, Ken Norton, NAMI NH, Rep. M. Proulx

Who opposes the bill: None.

Who is neutral on the bill: None

Summary of testimony presented in support:

Senator Kevin Avard, SD #12

- This is a very important bill.
- Our first responders are part of our infrastructure and we need to take care of our infrastructure.

- When people are seeing the worst in society, such as burn or crime victims, it takes a toll on their mental health.
- Introduced the bill so we can look at the impact this having.
- We consider our veterans and we should consider our first responders.
- This committee would allow us to hear from those that are affected by the day to day occurrences that first responders face.
- Sen. Woodburn brought up another similar bipartisan bill that Senator Hennessey has brought forth that goes a little further than this and would Senator Avard be opposed to merging them.
 - The importance of a study committee is that it allows people to talk about their experiences which would help in a number of ways. Other issues may come to the surface that need to be addressed. What is compassion fatigue, what is the divorce rate? This is bipartisan as well.
- Sen. Kahn questioned the composition of the study committee and that is has six legislators. Wondered if Senator Avard had any thoughts on the number.
 - The more eyes on it the better. Streamlined is okay but the more eyes on it we can deal with it more effectively in a bipartisan way.

William McQuillen – President Professional Fire Fighters of New Hampshire

- Organization supports this bill introduced by Senator Avard.
- Often see fire fighters and the fire service culture as “super human” tough person and doing some remarkable things which our members do each and every day.
- Not seen is the human toll, and the impact that repeated exposures to stressful situations and seeing the worst of the worst has on our members and what is going on in their minds.
- Believe that these types of injuries are treatable and that a behavioral injury has varying degrees and may take some time to heal with treatment.
- PTSD is a serious chronic condition that can ruin the careers of first responders, destroy families and jeopardize public and fire fighter safety.
- A lot of discussion about the cost of recruitment and retention of public employees.
- Reducing employee turnover and guaranteeing adequate treatment for work related injuries, the public achieves a greater return on their community investments.
- Most of our municipalities are not set up to deal with this kind of injury or treatment.
- We have built some peer support teams, fire fighters helping other fire fighters
- Greatest thing this bill can do is help eliminate the stigma of having a mental health injury.

- Every day we talk about it we reduce the stigma.
- PFF of NH believe public safety, personnel mental health maintenance and treatment are inherent costs of achieving a safer NH.

David Goldstein – New Hampshire Chiefs

- Expert in this field has a PHD and has been doing research regarding this subject for almost 40 years.
- This is an incredible initiative and is being discussed on the federal level as we speak.
- Law enforcement sees the worst of the worst and we are volunteers. If we are not there nobody answers the call.
- Of the over 800,000 police officers in the United States today it is estimated that 125 to 150 thousand are walking around with PTSD.
- This is a dangerous situation for the society and the communities that they serve.
- There is also another diagnostic category called Acute Stress Disorder – ASD occurs within 30 days of the traumatic event and brings on the symptoms of PTSD. PTSD gets diagnosed after 30 days.
- Chiefs are very much in favor of this bill and would like to be involved if needed.
- Sen. Kahn wondered if the Chief had any suggestions about the composition of the committee.
 - It would be an added bonus to add some of the first responders so there could be some truthful insight regarding what happens on the job. Officers have to deal with the traumatic event and then go back on the job right away. They are not given the time to recoup and deal with what they just experienced. We recognize it in the military and it is time we recognize our first responders.

Major Russell Conte – 32 Year Veteran of the State Police

- One thing that is significant is not only that the people get the help that they need and the stigma is reduced but that it strengthens our organizations.
- Collateral damage of people that suffer from PTSD is tremendous. You want your first responders to be at 100 percent and often they are not if they are suffering and often they have been suffering in silence for many years.
- Has seen people go through breakdowns specifically based on what they are exposed to professionally. Many times that impacts their personal life.
- In order to strengthen organizations and make communities strong and make this state strong you have to support the infrastructure of character that these people have.

- A study commission is imperative to take a good look at it because it is not anything that will change over the next couple years.
- One benefit we have is that the state police were the first to start a peer counseling program to assure that the families of the first responders are supported.
- Senator Ward asked how many are estimated now to be suffering with PTSD.
 - The numbers are substantial. Numerous members of each community are affected and it is widespread. It impacts people at different points in their careers. It depends on the coping skills that they have and the support they have. The good that will come of this is that it will create mechanisms to provide first responders with. A small disability does not mean they cannot get treatment, come back and sometimes be more productive than they were before.

Ken Norton – Executive Director of NAMI New Hampshire

- Has done a great deal of work with first responders and military in the area of suicide prevention.
- Real expertise comes from a family member who has experienced the effects of a life changing traumatic event and dealt with PTSD in every aspect of their life eventually resulting in addiction, incarcerations, and homelessness.
- Has also witnessed the effectiveness of appropriate treatment and the joys of recovery and healing with this same family member. Treatment does work.
- There are a cluster of symptoms that can be similar but how it manifests itself can be very different in each individual.
- When it manifests itself can be different also. A person can be doing fine and then something happens to trigger the trauma and then they are doing poorly.
- First responders are super heroes who put their uniform on in the morning and see the worst of the worst throughout the day but when the uniform comes off at the end of the day cannot possibly let go of everything they experienced. It has a tremendous impact on them and their families.
- This is seen in much higher rates of depression, PTSD and suicide.
- Suicide is the 2nd leading cause of death ages 10-34, the 3rd leading cause ages 35-44, and the 4th leading cause of death ages 45-54.
- The estimates for our first responders are that those rates are much higher.
- Suicide is the leading cause of death among fire and EMS members. We have lost 3 law enforcement officers in the past year due to suicide.
- This speaks to the importance of this bill and looking more closely at how we support our first responders. We need to do more.
- Senator Kahn asked if Mr. Norton had any thoughts on the composition of the committee.

- It depends on the leadership and how it is structured. A broader commission made up of more stakeholders can be effective it can get watered down to nothing without structure.

Representative Mark Proulx – Hills #44

- Part of Granite State Debriefing team which has been around for 20 years. About 40 volunteers made up of police, fire, ems and mental health counselors that go out to departments when a bad call comes in and help them through the call.
- After 20 years the need for this has not gotten any slower or better, it has only gotten worse.
- In 2017 in one department we had 2 fire fighters commit suicide. We are not sure if it was trauma related but it was trauma supported.
- Personally seen suicide going up in the state. We have a handout that we needed to add suicide prevention information on the back of.
- We are getting calls to do one on ones with first responders to help them with the burdens of the job and we do a lot of referrals to mental health professionals.
- We are losing first responders because of the job and we need to take care of them.
- Would be happy to serve on the committee.

Summary of testimony presented in opposition: None

Neutral Information Presented: None

Future Action: Pending

TJM
Date Hearing Report completed: January 18, 2018

Speakers

Senate Public & Municipal Affairs Committee

SIGN-IN SHEET

Date: 01/17/2018 Time: 9:45 a.m.

SB 508 Establishing a committee to study the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) among first responders.

Name/Representing (please print neatly)

Name/Representing	Support	Oppose	Speaking?	Yes	No
SENATOR SHARON CARSON SD#14	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Senator Bob Giuda SD #2	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Senator Fuller Clark SD#21	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sen. David Watters SD#4	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sen Kevin Frankel SD#12	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sen Regina Birdsell SD#19	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sen Curt Ward SD#8	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
TOM PRASOL NH TROOPERS ASSN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bob BLAISDELL NH POLICE ASSN	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Sen Granen SD#23	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Bill McQuillen PFFNH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
David Scalco PFFNH	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Testimony



January 17, 2018
National Alliance on Mental Illness

NAMI | New Hampshire

Honorable Chairman James Gray
Senate Public and Municipal Affairs Committee
State House Room 102
North Main St
33 N. State Street

Dear Chairman Gray and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Kenneth Norton and I serve as Executive Director of NAMI NH, the National Alliance on Mental Illness. On behalf of NAMI NH, I am here today to speak in favor of SB 508

By way of background, I am very familiar with trauma from my years of clinical work in community mental health as well as leading the development of NAMI NH's Connect Suicide Prevention program where I provided training and technical assistance to the NH National Guard as well as the Department of Defense and Defense Center on Excellence for Psychological Health and Traumatic Brain Injury. For the past four years I have also served as an appointed member of the legislatively established Military and Veterans Commission on PTSD and Traumatic Brain Injury. But I consider my real expertise as a family member who has intimately experienced the effects of a life changing traumatic event on a loved one and how the post traumatic stress disorder which followed affected every dimension of their life, school, work, relationships and health eventually resulting in addiction, repeated incarceration and homelessness. I am now also very fortunate to witness the effectiveness of appropriate treatment and the joys of recovery and healing.

From those experiences, two pieces of knowledge I would like to impart is that while there are clusters of symptoms that we can recognize resulting from trauma, how it manifests itself can be unique to that individual. And as demonstrated by our Veterans, we also know that trauma can lie dormant for periods of time and then be triggered resulting in the rapid onset of symptoms.

Our first responders are our everyday super heroes. They leave their homes and get into their uniforms each day knowing they are placing their lives on the line. Without hesitation they run into burning buildings or place themselves in harms way to help and save others. On a daily basis they see the worst of humanity. Murder and terrible crimes, horrific accidents, life threatening medical conditions, tragic fires, drug overdoses, and suicide. When they take their uniforms off at the end of the day it is difficult or perhaps impossible to leave all that behind them. Yet they return home to their families and loved ones and they do their best to not bring those events home with them.

They truly are super heroes, but they are first and foremost human and we need to look no further for that evidence than the body of research showing police and first responders experience higher rates of depression, and trauma than the general population.

Find Help, Find Hope

NAMI New Hampshire • 85 North State Street • Concord, NH 03301
InfoLine: 800-242-6264 • Tel. 603-225-5359 • Fax 603-228-8848 • info@naminh.org / www.NAMINH.org

Suicide is an important and preventable public health issue, one which first responders are intimately familiar with. In New Hampshire suicide is the second leading cause of death ages 10-34, the third leading cause of death ages 35-44 and the fourth leading cause of death ages 45-54 and the 10th overall. Sadly, first responders have significantly higher rates of suicide than the general population. Some estimates indicate that suicide is the leading cause of death for fire and emergency medical service providers. Estimates for police are that suicide deaths are triple the number of line of duty deaths in the US each year. Tragically, during the past year, suicide has taken the lives of three New Hampshire police officers.

NH Top Ten Leading Causes of Death 2011-2015

Rank	Age Groups										All Ages
	<1	1-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	
1	Congenital Anomalies 44	Unintentional Injury 10	Malignant Neoplasms —	Malignant Neoplasms 11	Unintentional Injury 252	Unintentional Injury 248	Unintentional Injury 381	Malignant Neoplasms 993	Malignant Neoplasms 2,572	Heart Disease 10,179	Malignant Neoplasms 13,455
2	Short Gestation 41	Congenital Anomalies —	Unintentional Injury —	Suicide —	Suicide 109	Suicide 143	Malignant Neoplasms 207	Heart Disease 570	Heart Disease 1,195	Malignant Neoplasms 9,561	Heart Disease 12,120
3	Maternal Pregnancy Comp. 29	Heart Disease —	Homicide —	Unintentional Injury —	Malignant Neoplasms 20	Malignant Neoplasms 78	Suicide 185	Unintentional Injury 353	Unintentional Injury 395	Chronic Low Respiratory Disease 2,936	Chronic Low Respiratory Disease 3,377
4	Placenta Cord Membranes 17	Homicide —	Cerebrovascular —	Benign Neoplasms —	Heart Disease 14	Heart Disease 38	Heart Disease 119	Suicide 281	Chronic Low Respiratory Disease 329	Cerebrovascular 2,682	Unintentional Injury 3,276
5	SIDS 11	Influenza & Pneumonia —	Congenital Anomalies —	Congenital Anomalies —	Homicide 14	Congenital Anomalies 14	Liver Disease 37	Liver Disease 165	Liver Disease 250	Alzheimer's Disease 1,824	Cerebrovascular 2,319
6	Circulatory System Disease 10	Malignant Neoplasms —	Heart Disease —	Heart Disease —	Cerebrovascular —	Homicide 12	Diabetes Mellitus 23	Diabetes Mellitus 108	Diabetes Mellitus 248	Unintentional Injury 1,249	Alzheimer's Disease 1,906
7	Respiratory Disease —	Benign Neoplasms —	Suicide —	Homicide —	Chronic Low Respiratory Disease —	Diabetes Mellitus —	Homicide 17	Chronic Low Respiratory Disease 85	Suicide 203	Diabetes Mellitus 1,683	Diabetes Mellitus 1,473
8	Necrotizing Enterocolitis —	—	—	—	Benign Neoplasms —	Chronic Low Respiratory Disease —	Cerebrovascular 13	Cerebrovascular 64	Cerebrovascular 144	Influenza & Pneumonia 1,022	Influenza & Pneumonia 1,119
9	Neonatal Hemorrhage —	—	—	—	Congenital Anomalies —	Liver Disease —	Chronic Low Respiratory Disease 13	Viral Hepatitis 27	Septicemia 73	Nephritis 782	Suicide 1,060
10	Unintentional Injury —	—	—	—	Diabetes Mellitus —	Complicated Pregnancy —	Trauma —	Influenza & Pneumonia 24	Viral Hepatitis 69	Parkinson's Disease 582	Nephritis 869

Terms for Causes of Death

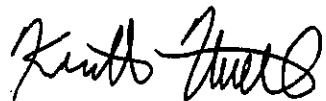
Printer-Friendly Version

New Hampshire is fortunate to have some very strong leadership in addressing the mental health needs of police and first responders. Department of Safety Commissioner Barthelmes has established a peer support program for state police led by Trooper Gahr, Franklin Chief David Goldstein has long been a proponent of providing mental health supports to law enforcement and EMS Director Deb Prendergast has been working hard to close the gap for emergency medical personnel. NAMI NH provides 16 hours of training to all cadets coming through NH Police Standards and Training Academy on mental illness including their own risk for PTSD, depression and suicide.

However we need to do more to support our police and first responders. Establishing this commission is an important step in the right direction. Therefore on behalf of NAMI NH I am asking you to vote this bill as ought to pass.

Please vote SB 508 as ought to pass. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,



Kenneth Norton, LICSW
Executive Director

PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS

O F N E W H A M P S H I R E

Wednesday, January 17, 2018

Senator James Gray, Chair
Public and Municipal Affairs
33 North State Street
Concord, NH 03301

Written Testimony - William J. McQuillen of Portsmouth

Chairman Gray and Honorable Members:

My name is William McQuillen and I am the president of the Professional Fire Fighters of New Hampshire. Additionally I serve as a Captain in the City of Portsmouth Fire Department, and have been a firefighter for 28 years serving my community. The Professional Fire Fighters of New Hampshire is a state association of 43 Locals, representing active and retired professional firefighters and paramedics across the Granite State. As a labor organization which represents individuals serving over sixty-five percent of our state's population we support the bill introduced by Senator Avar, Senate Bill 508, establishing a committee to study the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) among first responders.

In the fire service culture, we have long been expected to portray a tough guy image. The iconic scene of firefighters doing the hard physically demanding and dramatic work easily comes to mind. Often these images of the "iron firefighter" and super human person create a problem with what the individual is truly feeling inside. What is not seen is the human toll this job can take on us; the nightmares, post-traumatic stress, and depression leading to marital problems, substance abuse and changed behavior and personalities. However, these tough guy images have created some expectations within our ranks and created a stigma, that we can show no weakness and be unbreakable no matter how heavy the burdens we carry. Regardless the most horrifying incidents that can be imagined that we have responded to, we must be ready for the next call.

According to the Journal of Occupational Health, approximately 20 percent of fire fighters and paramedics have PTSD.¹ Furthermore, according to a 2015 Florida State University study, nearly half of the fire fighters surveyed (46.8 percent) have thought about suicide, 19.2 percent had suicide plans and 15.5 percent had made suicide attempts.² In fact, those with PTSD are six times more likely to attempt suicide compared to demographically matched

¹ Cornell, W., Beaton, R., Murphy, S., (1999). *Journal of Occupational Health Psychology*, 4, 131-141

² Career prevalence and correlates of suicidal thoughts and behaviors among firefighters Joiner TE₂, Stanley IH₁, Hom MA₂, Hagan CR₂, J Affect Disord. November 15, 2015

controls. Most fire fighters will recall with ease at least three horrific emergency calls or tragic events that replay over and over in their minds. Doctors at the Warriors Research Institute (WRI), a research arm of Baylor, Scott & White Health in Austin, Texas, have identified a clear link between traumatic situations experienced by fire fighters and paramedics and PTSD, similar to the chronic disorder experienced by veterans.³

Fire fighters and paramedics may believe that PTSD will go away on its own in time and, therefore, do not need treatment, or that seeking treatment will hurt their reputation or not remain confidential. PTSD can have devastating consequences if untreated or misdiagnosed and is often associated with other mental health disorders, such as depression, substance abuse, family dysfunction, violence and increased risk of suicide.⁴ It is important to seek help when experiencing high levels of stress, but too often, the stigma associated with needing help prevents many in the fire service from admitting something is wrong

Today, our fire and EMS services are moving past that deeply rooted culture and breaking the stigma so that we can take care of our members, and ensure that they live healthy lives and continue to provide the essential services that our citizens need. PTSD is a serious and chronic condition that can ruin the careers of fire fighters and paramedics, destroy families and jeopardize public and fire fighter safety.

As discussed in the Decennial Retirement Commission and other forums in recent months, the recruitment and retention of public employees is crucial to long-term stability for the taxpayers. Costs associated with the proper screening, training, certification and recertification of dedicated individuals only increase when these employees do not maintain optimum mental health. By reducing turnover and guaranteeing adequate treatment for work-related injuries, the public achieves a greater return on their community investments. The Professional Fire Fighters of New Hampshire believe public safety personnel mental health maintenance and treatment are inherent costs of achieving a safer New Hampshire, and hope you support Senate Bill 508.

Respectfully submitted



William J. McQuillen
President

³ Waco research facility takes aim at PTSD in first responders. September 11 Families Association (www.911families.org) July 29, 2015

⁴ United States Department of Veterans Affairs, National Center for PTSD. Co-occurring conditions. (www.ptsd.va.gov/professional/co-occurring/index.asp)

Committee Report

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SENATE

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

Wednesday, February 7, 2018

THE COMMITTEE ON Public and Municipal Affairs

to which was referred **SB 508**

AN ACT

establishing a committee to study the prevalence of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) among first responders.

Having considered the same, the committee recommends that the Bill

OUGHT TO PASS WITH AMENDMENT

BY A VOTE OF: 4-0

AMENDMENT # 0535s

Senator Ruth Ward
For the Committee

Tricia Melillo 271-3093