

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

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

4 Section 5. The Volunteer Emergency Worker Job Protection
5 Act is amended by changing Section 5 as follows:

6 (50 ILCS 748/5)

7 Sec. 5. Volunteer emergency worker; when termination of
8 employment prohibited.

9 (a) No public or private employer may terminate an employee
10 who is a volunteer emergency worker because the employee, when
11 acting as a volunteer emergency worker, is absent from or late
12 to his or her employment in order to respond to an emergency
13 prior to the time the employee is to report to his or her place
14 of employment. A public or private employer shall not
15 discipline an employee who is a volunteer emergency worker if
16 the employee, in the scope of acting as a volunteer emergency
17 worker, responds to an emergency phone call or text message
18 during work hours that requests the person's volunteer
19 emergency services unless the person is employed by a public or
20 private vehicle service provider and is in the course of
21 performing services as Emergency Medical Services personnel as
22 defined in Section 3.5 of the Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
23 Systems Act.

1 (b) An employer may charge, against the employee's regular
2 pay, any time that an employee who is a volunteer emergency
3 worker loses from employment because of the employee's response
4 to an emergency in the course of performing his or her duties
5 as a volunteer emergency worker.

6 (c) In the case of an employee who is a volunteer emergency
7 worker and who loses time from his or her employment in order
8 to respond to an emergency in the course of performing his or
9 her duties as a volunteer emergency worker, the employer has
10 the right to request the employee to provide the employer with
11 a written statement from the supervisor or acting supervisor of
12 the volunteer fire department or governmental entity that the
13 volunteer emergency worker serves stating that the employee
14 responded to an emergency and stating the time and date of the
15 emergency.

16 (d) An employee who is a volunteer emergency worker and who
17 may be absent from or late to his or her employment in order to
18 respond to an emergency in the course of performing his or her
19 duties as a volunteer emergency worker must make a reasonable
20 effort to notify his or her employer that he or she may be
21 absent or late.

22 (Source: P.A. 93-1027, eff. 8-25-04; 94-599, eff. 1-1-06.)