

**SENATE
STATE OF MINNESOTA
NINETY-SECOND SESSION**

S.F. No. 1925

(SENATE AUTHORS: ABELER, Howe and Hoffman)

DATE	D-PG	OFFICIAL STATUS
03/10/2021	800	Introduction and first reading Referred to State Government Finance and Policy and Elections See SF1712, Art. 6, Sec. 9-12

1.1 A bill for an act

1.2 relating to retirement; Ramsey Volunteer Firefighters' Relief Association; full

1.3 vesting and distribution of accounts to firefighters assigned to the Nowthen fire

1.4 station; repealing Laws 2020, chapter 108, article 14, section 1.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. **VESTING AND DISTRIBUTION OF NOWTHEN FIREFIGHTERS'**

1.7 **ACCOUNTS IN THE RAMSEY VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS' RELIEF**

1.8 **ASSOCIATION.**

1.9 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) "Account" means the account established for a member

1.10 under the Ramsey relief association, to which an allocation of fire state aid, supplemental

1.11 aid, contributions, forfeitures, interest, and investment earnings or losses have been credited

1.12 for every year the member was eligible to receive such allocation under the bylaws of the

1.13 Ramsey relief association.

1.14 (b) "Nowthen firefighter" means a firefighter (1) who is or was an employee of the city

1.15 of Ramsey assigned to the Nowthen fire station on March 31, 2021; (2) who has an account

1.16 in the Ramsey relief association; and (3) whose employment is or was terminated by the

1.17 city of Ramsey in 2021.

1.18 (c) "Ramsey relief association" means the Ramsey Volunteer Firefighters' Relief

1.19 Association.

1.20 Subd. 2. **Eligibility for allocation, full vesting, and immediate access to**

1.21 **accounts.** Notwithstanding any laws or provisions in the bylaws or articles of incorporation

1.22 of the Ramsey relief association to the contrary:

2.1 (1) Any Nowthen firefighter whose employment with the city of Ramsey terminates
2.2 during 2021 shall be considered as having worked 12 months of active service for 2021 and
2.3 as having the status of active member of the association in good standing on December 31,
2.4 2021, for purposes of (i) allocating fire state aid, supplemental aid, contributions, forfeitures,
2.5 interest, and investment earnings or losses; and (ii) deducting administrative expenses.

2.6 (2) The account of each Nowthen firefighter in the Ramsey relief association shall
2.7 become 100 percent vested as of the date on which the Nowthen firefighter's employment
2.8 with the city of Ramsey is or was terminated.

2.9 (3) The Nowthen firefighter shall be entitled to elect an immediate distribution of the
2.10 Nowthen firefighter's account in the Ramsey relief association, which distribution may be
2.11 paid, at the election of the Nowthen firefighter, in a lump sum directly to the Nowthen
2.12 firefighter or in a direct rollover to an eligible retirement plan, as defined in Minnesota
2.13 Statutes, section 356.635, subdivision 6, designated by the Nowthen firefighter.

2.14 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

2.15 Sec. 2. **FIRE STATE AID FOR NOWTHEN.**

2.16 For the purposes of fire state aid payable in 2022 under Minnesota Statutes, chapter
2.17 477B, the city of Nowthen will be considered as having satisfied the requirement under
2.18 Minnesota Statutes, section 477B.02, subdivision 2, paragraph (b), to have provided
2.19 firefighting services for at least one calendar year, if the city of Nowthen provides
2.20 documentation of its fire department being in operation no later than December 31, 2021,
2.21 to the commissioner of revenue no later than February 1, 2022.

2.22 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

2.23 Sec. 3. **PARTICIPATION IN THE PERA STATEWIDE VOLUNTEER**
2.24 **FIREFIGHTER PLAN.**

2.25 Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 353G.05, subdivision 5, paragraph (c),
2.26 coverage by the statewide volunteer firefighter plan of the volunteer firefighters employed
2.27 by the city of Nowthen shall be effective on the date an election of coverage by the statewide
2.28 volunteer firefighter plan is approved by the governing board of the city of Nowthen or, if
2.29 later, on the date that the city of Nowthen satisfies all other requirements for coverage by
2.30 the statewide volunteer firefighter plan under Minnesota Statutes, section 353G.05.

2.31 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

3.1 Sec. 4. **REPEALER.**

3.2 Laws 2020, chapter 108, article 14, section 1, is repealed.

3.3 **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This section is effective the day following final enactment.

APPENDIX
Repealed Minnesota Session Laws: 21-03410

Laws 2020, chapter 108, article 14, section 1 by Laws 2021, chapter 22, article 6, section 12

