Berthelot (HB 803) Act No. 259

<u>Existing law</u> requires the state fire marshal to obtain workers' compensation insurance for volunteer firefighters who participate in the normal functions of the fire company. <u>Existing law</u> further provides that volunteer firefighters are entitled to medical benefits under workers' compensation law.

<u>Existing law</u> excludes volunteer members from coverage who were not carried on the membership list on the date of injury. <u>Existing law</u> requires the fire chief to attest by affidavit when injuries are sustained in the line of duty.

Existing law provides definitions.

<u>Existing law</u> provides that for injury causing death, reasonable burial expenses of volunteer members, not exceeding \$7,500, shall be paid.

Existing law provides defenses to a claim for benefits under existing law a fire company may assert, including injuries sustained during a parade shall be excluded from benefit eligibility.

<u>New law</u> allows the state fire marshal to promulgate rules and regulations in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act to carry out the provisions of the volunteer firefighters workers' compensation law.

Effective Aug. 1, 2014.

(Adds R.S. 23:1036(M))