

Existing law allows fire protection districts, municipal fire departments, and volunteer fire departments to use public funds in connection with certain activities such as the purchase of recognitions of achievement, not to exceed \$100, and refreshments for firefighters while attending meetings or training programs or while performing emergency services, not to exceed \$25. Provides that existing law does not restrict the use of public funds to pay or defray reasonable travel expenses for attendance at educational or training conferences.

New law allows the use of public funds by fire districts, municipal fire departments, and volunteer fire departments for the implementation of length of service awards programs, which provide a monetary benefit, based on service, to eligible volunteer firefighters. Provides that the program is not a vested right and does not entitle recipients to other benefits. Provides that the award is not permanent.

Effective August 1, 2013.

(Amends R.S. 40:1510)