

**2010 MSFCA/MnFAC Legislative Initiatives  
Feedback Form**

**Please prioritize our list by Circling or Underlining 5 or 6 items that have been submitted by membership**

1. Car insurance to cover FD Response, current law provides that individual insurance is primary coverage if an accident occurs. If FD has League coverage then the league coverage is secondary.
2. Income tax credit or other incentive for Volunteer Firefighters. On the list the past several years and a top priority, however, with budget situation a difficult issue.
  - a. Tax Relief on Pensions
  - b. Income Tax Credit
  - c. Subsidized health care program
3. Civil Immunity granted to cities/fire departments that donate used public safety equipment to other political subdivisions. Also on the list last year but opposed by the trial lawyers.
4. Training Board Name changed to include Licensure and add additional chiefs and MPFF members. With significant funding now occurring, effort to balance the interests of MSFDA (which has 5) and MPFF and MSFCA which have two members each.
5. CO Monitor requirement into Fire Code or some penalty provision included in current law as there currently is no penalty provision in existing law. Rental and licensed units can be brought into compliance using local ordinances.
6. Supplemental budget request to appropriate remaining fire safety account monies to Fire Service Advisory Committee. Estimated that there is 4.45 million in the fund waiting to be allocated.
7. Morris vs. Sax – City can adopt local maintenance code stricter than model code. Needed as Supreme Court ruling (City of Morris vs. Sax) ruled a city cannot adopt a maintenance code more prescriptive than the national model code. St. Paul FD will be taking the lead on this issue with support from Mpls. and the League of Cities.
8. Sprinkler retrofit required for building that suffers major fire damage defined to be at least 50% or more of the valuation.

9. Fire Districts permitted taxing authority. Creation of fire districts with elected or appointed commissioners who would have similar levy authority to raise taxes to fund fire department operation.
10. Ban of novelty lighters from retail sale. Explosion of novelty lighters in marketplace encourages young children to play with fire. At least two other states have passed this legislation.
11. Exception for mandatory maximum 31 day pay period for volunteer firefighters. Current law requires a political subdivision to issue payroll checks at least once a month. This is a League initiative and they are seeking our support.
12. Advisory Task Force to issue report and legislation that allows for voluntary consolidation of fire departments by creating the proper environment, removing obstacles and providing support and incentives. (Might occur through an Executive Order).
13. Retired FF license plates. Vanity plate allowed for retired (not separated, must actually be vested and retire) firefighter.
14. Reduction in tax rate on charitable gambling proceeds.