

PETITION TO THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

Whereas:

- Volunteer firefighters account for 71% of Canada's total firefighting essential first responders;
- In addition, approximately 8,000 essential search and rescue volunteers respond to thousands of incidents every year;
- The tax code of Canada currently allows volunteer firefighters and search and rescue volunteers to claim a \$3,000 tax credit if 200 hours of volunteer services were completed in a calendar year;
- This works out to a mere \$450 per year, which we allow these essential volunteers to keep of their own income from their regular jobs, \$2.25 an hour;
- If they volunteer more than 200 hours, which many do, this tax credit becomes even less;
- These essential volunteers not only put their lives on the line and give their time, training and efforts to Canadians, but they also allow cities and municipalities to keep property taxes lower than if paid services were required;
- Increasing this tax credit would allow these essential volunteers to keep more of their hard-earned money, likely to be spent in the communities in which they live; and
- It would also help retain these volunteers in a time when volunteerism is decreasing.

We, the undersigned citizens and residents of Canada, call upon the Government of Canada to support Bill C-310 and enact amendments to subsections 118.06(2) and 118.07(2) of the *Income Tax Act* in order to increase the amount of the tax credits for volunteer firefighting and search and rescue volunteer services from \$3,000 to \$10,000.

Name (Please Print)	Address (mandatory) (in full (or) City&Prov. (or) Prov.&Postal code)	Signature (mandatory)

Please return completed petitions to: Gord Johns, MP // House of Commons // Ottawa, ON // K1A 0A1
(no stamp required, please use an envelope) Original copies only, no scanned/digital copies.

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