
ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL 1109

State of Washington **58th Legislature** **2003 Regular Session**

By Representatives Clibborn, Newhouse, Benson, Wallace and Haigh

Read first time 01/17/2003. Referred to Committee on State Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to providing wildland fire fighting training; and
2 reenacting and amending RCW 43.43.934.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.43.934 and 1999 c 117 s 1 and 1999 c 24 s 3 are
5 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

6 Except for matters relating to the statutory duties of the chief of
7 the Washington state patrol that are to be carried out through the
8 director of fire protection, the board shall have the responsibility of
9 developing a comprehensive state policy regarding fire protection
10 services. In carrying out its duties, the board shall:

11 (1)(a) Adopt a state fire training and education master plan that
12 allows to the maximum feasible extent for negotiated agreements: (i)
13 With the state board for community and technical colleges to provide
14 academic, vocational, and field training programs for the fire service
15 and (ii) with the higher education coordinating board and the state
16 colleges and universities to provide instructional programs requiring
17 advanced training, especially in command and management skills;

1 (b) Adopt minimum standards for each level of responsibility among
2 personnel with fire suppression, prevention, inspection, and
3 investigation responsibilities that assure continuing assessment of
4 skills and are flexible enough to meet emerging technologies. With
5 particular respect to training for fire investigations, the master plan
6 shall encourage cross training in appropriate law enforcement skills.
7 To meet special local needs, fire agencies may adopt more stringent
8 requirements than those adopted by the state;

9 (c) Cooperate with the common schools, technical and community
10 colleges, institutions of higher education, and any department or
11 division of the state, or of any county or municipal corporation in
12 establishing and maintaining instruction in fire service training and
13 education in accordance with any act of congress and legislation
14 enacted by the legislature in pursuance thereof and in establishing,
15 building, and operating training and education facilities.

16 Industrial fire departments and private fire investigators may
17 participate in training and education programs under this chapter for
18 a reasonable fee established by rule;

19 (d) Develop and adopt a master plan for constructing, equipping,
20 maintaining, and operating necessary fire service training and
21 education facilities subject to the provisions of chapter 43.19 RCW;

22 (e) Develop and adopt a master plan for the purchase, lease, or
23 other acquisition of real estate necessary for fire service training
24 and education facilities in a manner provided by law; and

25 (f) Develop and adopt a plan with a goal of providing (~~training at~~
26 ~~the level of~~) fire fighter one and wildland training, as defined by
27 the board, to all fire fighters in the state. Fire fighter one
28 training is a mandatory prerequisite for any individual fire fighter to
29 participate in wildland training. Fire protection districts and city
30 fire departments shall make fire fighter one training the primary
31 training responsibility for fire fighters and wildland training the
32 secondary responsibility. The plan will include a reimbursement for
33 fire protection districts and city fire departments of not less than
34 (~~two~~) three dollars for every hour of fire fighter one or wildland
35 training. The Washington state patrol shall not provide reimbursement
36 for more than (~~one~~) two hundred (~~fifty~~) hours of fire fighter one
37 or wildland training for each fire fighter trained.

1 (2) In addition to its responsibilities for fire service training,
2 the board shall:

3 (a) Adopt a state fire protection master plan;

4 (b) Monitor fire protection in the state and develop objectives and
5 priorities to improve fire protection for the state's citizens
6 including: (i) The comprehensiveness of state and local inspections
7 required by law for fire and life safety; (ii) the level of skills and
8 training of inspectors, as well as needs for additional training; and
9 (iii) the efforts of local, regional, and state inspection agencies to
10 improve coordination and reduce duplication among inspection efforts;

11 (c) Establish and promote state arson control programs and ensure
12 development of local arson control programs;

13 (d) Provide representation for local fire protection services to
14 the governor in state-level fire protection planning matters such as,
15 but not limited to, hazardous materials control;

16 (e) Recommend to the adjutant general rules on minimum information
17 requirements of automatic location identification for the purposes of
18 enhanced 911 emergency service;

19 (f) Seek and solicit grants, gifts, bequests, devises, and matching
20 funds for use in furthering the objectives and duties of the board, and
21 establish procedures for administering them;

22 (g) Promote mutual aid and disaster planning for fire services in
23 this state;

24 (h) Assure the dissemination of information concerning the amount
25 of fire damage including that damage caused by arson, and its causes
26 and prevention; and

27 (i) Implement any legislation enacted by the legislature to meet
28 the requirements of any acts of congress that apply to this section.

29 (3) In carrying out its statutory duties, the board shall give
30 particular consideration to the appropriate roles to be played by the
31 state and by local jurisdictions with fire protection responsibilities.
32 Any determinations on the division of responsibility shall be made in
33 consultation with local fire officials and their representatives.

34 To the extent possible, the board shall encourage development of
35 regional units along compatible geographic, population, economic, and
36 fire risk dimensions. Such regional units may serve to: (a) Reinforce
37 coordination among state and local activities in fire service training,
38 reporting, inspections, and investigations; (b) identify areas of

1 special need, particularly in smaller jurisdictions with inadequate
2 resources; (c) assist the state in its oversight responsibilities; (d)
3 identify funding needs and options at both the state and local levels;
4 and (e) provide models for building local capacity in fire protection
5 programs.

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