

By: Bailey

H.B. No. 2363

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to minimum staffing for certain fire apparatus in certain fire departments.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter G, Chapter 143, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Section 143.1055 to read as follows:

Sec. 143.1055. MINIMUM STAFFING FOR FIRE APPARATUS. (a) In this section:

(1) "Engine company" means a fire company whose primary functions are to pump and deliver water and to perform fire suppression and maintenance.

(2) "Ladder or truck company" means a fire company whose primary functions are to perform services associated with truck work, including forcible entry, ventilation, search and rescue, aerial operations, utility control, illumination, overhaul, and salvage work.

(b) Except as provided by Subsection (c), an engine company or a ladder or truck company shall be staffed with at least four on-duty fire fighters.

(c) If a fire company serves an area that the fire department determines is a high risk area because of tactical hazards, high hazard occupancies, high incident frequencies, geographical restrictions, or other relevant factors, the fire company shall be staffed with at least:

1 (1) five on-duty fire fighters if the company is an
2 engine company; or

3 (2) six on-duty fire fighters if the company is a
4 ladder or truck company.

5 (d) Each fire company shall be led by an officer who is
6 considered a fire fighter of the company for purposes of
7 Subsections (b) and (c).

8 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.