

AN ACT

relating to certain insurance-related matters involving rural volunteer firefighters, volunteer police force members, or emergency services districts.

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

SECTION 1. Section 614.072(b), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The director may adopt rules necessary to assist rural volunteer fire departments in the payment of:

(1) workers' compensation insurance;

(2) audit costs for workers' compensation claims in any year in which there is an abnormally high number of wildfires;
and

(3) accidental death and disability insurance.

SECTION 2. Chapter 614, Government Code, is amended by adding Subchapter H to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER H. INSURANCE COVERAGE REQUIRED FOR
VOLUNTEER POLICE FORCE MEMBERS

Sec. 614.121. DEFINITION. In this subchapter, "volunteer police force member" means:

(1) a person summoned under Section 341.011, Local Government Code, to serve on a special police force;

(2) a police reserve force member appointed under Section 341.012, Local Government Code; and

1 (3) any other person assigned by a state agency or
2 political subdivision to perform, without compensation, any duties
3 typically performed by a peace officer.

4 Sec. 614.122. INSURANCE COVERAGE REQUIRED. (a) Each
5 volunteer police force member must be insured or covered by the
6 applicable state agency or political subdivision against any injury
7 suffered by the police force member in the course and scope of
8 performing the person's assigned duties at the request of or under a
9 contract with a state agency or political subdivision.

10 (b) The applicable state agency or political subdivision
11 may satisfy the requirements of Subsection (a) by:

- 12 (1) providing insurance coverage; or
13 (2) entering into an interlocal agreement with another
14 political subdivision providing for self-insurance.

15 SECTION 3. Section 775.084(i), Health and Safety Code, is
16 amended to read as follows:

- 17 (i) This section does not apply to:
- 18 (1) the purchase or lease of real property;
- 19 (2) an item or service that the board determines can be
20 obtained from only one source;
- 21 (3) a contract for fire extinguishment and suppression
22 services, emergency rescue services, or ambulance services;
- 23 (4) an emergency expenditure;
- 24 (5) the purchase of vehicle fuel; [~~or~~]
- 25 (6) the purchase of firefighter bunker gear;
- 26 (7) the purchase of insurance coverage; or
- 27 (8) repairs funded by a payment made under an

1 insurance claim.

2 SECTION 4. Subchapter H, Chapter 614, Government Code, as
3 added by this Act, applies only to a volunteer police force member
4 performing assigned duties on or after January 1, 2008.

5 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2667 was passed by the House on May 11, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 132, Nays 4, 3 present, not voting; that the House refused to concur in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 2667 on May 25, 2007, and requested the appointment of a conference committee to consider the differences between the two houses; and that the House adopted the conference committee report on H.B. No. 2667 on May 27, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 139, Nays 1, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

H.B. No. 2667

I certify that H.B. No. 2667 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 23, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0; at the request of the House, the Senate appointed a conference committee to consider the differences between the two houses; and that the Senate adopted the conference committee report on H.B. No. 2667 on May 27, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor