

Amend Amendment No. 1 by McReynolds to **CSSB 1011** by adding the following Section to the McReynolds amendment:

SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. (a) The legislature shall establish a joint interim committee to examine the feasibility and desirability of consolidating and expanding functions relating to volunteer firefighters and volunteer fire departments with the Texas Fire Protection Agency. The committee is composed of:

(1) five members of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives, one of whom must be the chair of the standing house committee with oversight of the Texas Fire Protection Agency; and

(2) five members of the senate appointed by the lieutenant governor, one of whom must be the chair of the standing senate committee with oversight of the Texas Fire Protection Agency.

(b) The speaker and the lieutenant governor shall jointly select the presiding officer and assistant presiding officer of the committee from among the committee members. The committee may designate other officers as the committee considers appropriate.

(c) The study shall address:

(1) transferring the Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program under Subchapter G, Chapter 614, Government Code, from the Texas Forest Service of The Texas A&M University System to the Texas Fire Protection Agency;

(2) establishing minimum educational and training standards for volunteer firefighters, including a system of certification, proficiency examinations, and continuing education requirements;

(3) adopting a uniform curriculum for volunteer firefighters and approving courses for that curriculum;

(4) providing educational and other assistance to volunteer fire departments and volunteer firefighters;

(5) establishing standards for volunteer fire departments and monitoring compliance with those standards; and

(6) establishing and enforcing uniform statewide firefighter safety standards for the safety of firefighters and the general public.

(d) Not later than January 1, 2011, the joint interim committee shall report its findings to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the standing committees of the house and senate with oversight of the Texas Fire Protection Agency.