

By: Springer

H.B. No. 2517

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the authority of counties to require a person to notify a local fire department before starting an outdoor fire; creating a criminal penalty.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 352, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Section 352.083 to read as follows:

Sec. 352.083. NOTIFICATION OF OUTDOOR BURNING. (a) In this section, "fire department" means a volunteer fire department or a department of a municipality or county that provides firefighting services.

(b) The commissioners court of a county by order may require a person to notify the fire department that provides firefighting services in an area of the county before starting an outdoor fire in the area.

(c) A person commits an offense if the person knowingly or intentionally violates an order adopted under Subsection (b). An offense under this subsection is a Class C misdemeanor.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2013.