

By: Alonzo

H.B. No. 2971

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the regulation of firefighters and fire departments by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection.

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

SECTION 1. Section 419.021(3), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(3) "Fire protection personnel" means:

(A) permanent, full-time law enforcement officers designated as fire and arson investigators by an appropriate local authority;

(B) aircraft rescue and fire protection personnel; ~~or~~

(C) permanent, full-time fire department employees who are not secretaries, stenographers, clerks, budget analysts, or similar support staff persons or other administrative employees and who are assigned duties in one or more of the following categories:

(i) fire suppression;

(ii) fire inspection;

(iii) fire and arson investigation;

(iv) marine fire fighting;

(v) aircraft rescue and fire fighting;

(vi) fire training;

(vii) fire education;

1 (viii) fire administration; and  
2 (ix) any other position necessarily or  
3 customarily related to fire prevention or suppression; or  
4 (D) permanent, full-time fire department or  
5 local government employees who are not secretaries, stenographers,  
6 clerks, budget analysts, or similar support staff persons or other  
7 administrative employees and who are designated as wildland fire  
8 fighters.

9 SECTION 2. Section 419.909, Government Code, is amended by  
10 adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

11 (d) The commission shall adopt and implement rules relating  
12 to the application of this section to a fire department.

13 SECTION 3. The Texas Commission on Fire Protection shall  
14 adopt the rules required under Section 419.909, Government Code, as  
15 amended by this Act, not later than January 1, 2014.

16 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
17 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
18 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
19 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
20 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.