

AN ACT

relating to municipal fire suppression standards in certain municipalities.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 342, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Subchapter Z to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER Z. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

Sec. 342.901. FIRE SUPPRESSION STANDARDS IN CERTAIN MUNICIPALITIES. (a) This section applies to a general law municipality that:

(1) has a population of less than 4,000;

(2) is located in a county that:

(A) has a population of more than one million; and

(B) is adjacent to a county with a population of more than 420,000; and

(3) is served by a district governed by Chapter 51, Water Code.

(b) Notwithstanding any other law, the governing body of a municipality may by ordinance establish water flow and water pressure standards sufficient to provide adequate pressure to fire suppression systems and require a district described by Subsection (a)(3) that provides water service in the municipality to take reasonable measures to comply with those standards.

1 (c) Before a municipality adopts an ordinance under this
2 section, the municipality and the district described by Subsection
3 (a)(3) that is subject to the proposed ordinance shall establish
4 the scope of and estimate the costs associated with any capital
5 improvements necessary to comply with the proposed ordinance.

6 (d) A district described by Subsection (a)(3) may recover
7 the costs associated with complying with an ordinance adopted under
8 this section through a surcharge assessed only to customers served
9 in the municipality to the extent that:

10 (1) complying with the ordinance results in additional
11 capital improvement costs for the district; and

12 (2) the ordinance establishes water flow and water
13 pressure standards inside municipal boundaries that are more
14 stringent than water flow and water pressure standards required
15 outside municipal boundaries.

16 (e) To the extent of a conflict between this section and any
17 other law, this section controls.

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

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 3813 was passed by the House on May 2, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 145, Nays 2, 2 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 3813 on May 23, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 146, Nays 1, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 3813 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 20, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor