

By: Watson

S.B. No. 1801

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the adoption of fire hydrant requirements for a wildland-urban interface in certain municipalities.

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

SECTION 1. Subtitle C, Title 9, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Chapter 797 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 797. WILDFIRE PREVENTION

Sec. 797.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Director" means the director of the Texas A&M Forest Service.

(2) "Wildfire" and "wildland" have the meanings assigned by Section 88.1015, Education Code.

(3) "Wildland-urban interface" means a place where an urban area and wildland meet and that:

(A) is designated by the director to be an at-risk area for wildfires;

(B) is an area within one-half mile of a place described by Paragraph (A); or

(C) is located in a county with an outdoor burn ban in effect for at least 100 days during the past two years.

Sec. 797.002. FIRE HYDRANT REQUIREMENTS FOR WILDLAND-URBAN INTERFACE. (a) This section applies only to a municipality with a population of 2,500 or more that has within its boundaries a wildland-urban interface.

1 (b) A governing body of a municipality may by ordinance
2 require a fire hydrant located in that municipality to conform to
3 flow and pressure standards established by the ordinance.

4 (c) A municipality may consult with county and state fire
5 prevention agencies in adopting standards under Subsection (b).

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