86R17325 JCG-D

By:  King of Hemphill, Springer, Cyrier, Murr, H.B. No. 3070

     Kacal

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 3070:

By:  Beckley C.S.H.B. No. 3070

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to grants for emergency assistance under the rural volunteer fire department assistance program.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 614.102, Government Code, is amended by amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsection (h) to read as follows:

(c)  The director shall:

(1)  determine reasonable criteria and qualifications for the distribution of money from the volunteer fire department assistance fund, including:

(A)  the frequency, size, and severity of past wildfires in a volunteer fire department's jurisdiction; [~~and~~]

(B)  the potential for loss or damage to property resulting from future wildfires in the department's jurisdiction; and

(C)  the department's need for emergency assistance under Section 614.103(a-1); and

(2)  establish a procedure for reporting and processing requests for money from the fund.

(h)  The procedure for processing requests established under Subsection (c) must require the director to process a request for emergency assistance under Section 614.103(a-1) before any other type of request for assistance.

SECTION 2.  Section 614.103, Government Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a-1)  A volunteer fire department whose equipment is damaged or lost in responding to a declared state of disaster under Chapter 418 in an area subject to the declaration may submit a request for emergency assistance from the fund for:

(1)  the replacement or repair of damaged or lost personal protective equipment or other firefighting equipment; and

(2)  the purchase of a machine to clean personal protective equipment.

SECTION 3.  As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act, the director of the Texas A&M Forest Service shall adopt rules as necessary to implement Subchapter G, Chapter 614, Government Code, as amended by this Act.

SECTION 4.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.