

By: Paxton

S.B. No. 897

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the composition of the Texas Commission on Fire
3 Protection.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section [419.004](#), Government Code, is amended by
6 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as
7 follows:

8 (a) The commission is composed of the following 13 members:

9 (1) two members to be selected from a list of five
10 names submitted by the Texas Fire Chiefs Association who are chief
11 officers with a minimum rank that is equivalent to the position
12 immediately below that of the fire chief and who are employed in
13 fire departments as defined by Section [419.021](#) that are under the
14 jurisdiction of the commission, at least one of whom must be the
15 head of a fire department and one of whom must be employed by a
16 political subdivision with a population of less than 100,000;

17 (2) two members to be selected from a list of five
18 names submitted by the Texas State Association of Fire Fighters who
19 are fire protection personnel as defined by Section [419.021](#) with
20 the rank of battalion chief or below and who are employed in fire
21 departments or other appropriate local authorities under the
22 jurisdiction of the commission, one of whom must be employed by a
23 political subdivision with a population of less than 100,000;

24 (3) two members to be selected from a list of five

1 names submitted by the State Firemen's and Fire Marshals'
2 Association of Texas who are volunteer fire chiefs or volunteer
3 fire fighters;

4 (4) one member who is a chief officer with a minimum
5 rank that is equivalent to the position immediately below that of
6 the fire chief, who is employed in a fire department as defined by
7 Section 419.021 that is under the jurisdiction of the commission
8 and that serves a population of 250,000 or more, and who is not a
9 member of the Texas Fire Chiefs Association;

10 (5) one certified fire protection engineer;

11 [~~(5) one certified arson investigator or certified~~
12 ~~fire protection inspector,]~~

13 (6) one fire protection instructor from an institution
14 of higher education as defined by Section 61.003, Education Code;
15 and

16 (7) four public members.

17 (a-1) One of the commission members must be a certified
18 arson investigator or certified fire protection inspector.

19 SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act to the
20 qualifications of members of the Texas Commission on Fire
21 Protection do not affect the entitlement of a member serving on the
22 commission immediately before the effective date of this Act to
23 continue as a member of the commission for the remainder of the
24 member's term. The changes in law apply only to a member appointed
25 on or after the effective date of this Act. This Act does not
26 prohibit a person who is a member of the commission on the effective
27 date of this Act from being reappointed to the commission if the

1 person has the qualifications required for a member under Section
2 [419.004](#), Government Code, as amended by this Act.

3 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.