

By: Hinojosa of Nueces

S.B. No. 1545

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to an annual occupational medical examination for fire
fighters.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 180, Local Government Code, is amended
by adding Section 180.011 to read as follows:

Sec. 180.011. ANNUAL OCCUPATIONAL MEDICAL EXAMINATION FOR
FIRE FIGHTERS. (a) In this section:

(1) "Fire department" has the meaning assigned by
Section 419.021, Government Code.

(2) "Fire fighter" means an individual:

(A) defined as fire protection personnel under
Section 419.021(3)(C), Government Code; and

(B) who is certified by the Texas Commission on
Fire Protection under Chapter 419 of that code.

(b) A fire department shall offer an annual occupational
medical examination to each fire fighter employed by the fire
department at no cost to the fire fighter.

(c) The annual occupational medical examination required
under Subsection (b) must be confidential and include:

(1) a blood test;

(2) a urine test;

(3) a pulmonary function test;

(4) an electrocardiogram;

1 (5) an infectious disease screening;

2 (6) a cancer screening; and

3 (7) a chest x-ray, subject to Subsection (d).

4 (d) A fire fighter is eligible to receive a chest x-ray
5 during an annual occupational medical examination required under
6 Subsection (b) once every five years.

7 (e) The Texas Commission on Fire Protection shall adopt
8 rules establishing minimum standards for annual occupational
9 medical examinations required under Subsection (b) by using
10 standards developed by the National Fire Protection Association.

11 (f) A fire department is not required to offer an annual
12 occupational medical examination under Subsection (b) if the fire
13 department offers an annual occupational medical examination under
14 an annual occupational medical examination plan submitted to the
15 Texas Commission on Fire Protection by February 1 of each year. The
16 plan must be endorsed by a physician and be in substantial
17 compliance with standards developed by the National Fire Protection
18 Association. The commission shall adopt rules to implement this
19 subsection.

20 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date
21 of this Act but not later than January 1, 2027, the Texas Commission
22 on Fire Protection shall adopt rules as required by Sections
23 180.011(e) and (f), Local Government Code, as added by this Act.

24 SECTION 3. A fire department is not required to comply with
25 Section 180.011, Local Government Code, as added by this Act, until
26 February 1, 2027.

27 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

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1 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
3 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
4 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.