

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1993

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SENATE BILL 640

Short Title: Fire/Rescue Commission Staff.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senator Cooper.

Referred to: Appropriations.

March 31, 1993

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO ALLOW THE FIRE AND RESCUE COMMISSION TO REIMBURSE MEMBERS OF ITS CERTIFICATION BOARD AND TO PROVIDE STAFF POSITIONS TO ADMINISTER FIRE AND RESCUE CERTIFICATION PROGRAMS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. G.S. 58-78-5(a) reads as rewritten:

"(a) The Commission shall have the following powers and duties:

- (1) To formally adopt a State Fire Education and Training Plan, a State Master Plan for Fire Prevention and Control, a Rescue Training Plan, and a State Master Plan for Rescue Services;
- (2) To assist and participate with State and local fire prevention and control agencies in the improvement of fire prevention and control in North Carolina and to work with State and local rescue agencies to improve rescue services in the State;
- (3) To increase the professional skills of fire protection and fire-fighting personnel and rescue personnel;
- (4) To encourage public support for fire prevention and control and rescue services;
- (5) To accept gifts, bequests, devises, grants, matching funds, and other considerations from private or governmental sources for use in promoting its work;
- (6) To make grants for use in pursuing its objectives, under such conditions as are deemed to be necessary and such other powers as

- 1 may be necessary to carry out the State's duties with respect to all
2 grants to the State by the United States Fire Administration and the
3 National Fire Academy; and all support programs brought into the
4 State by these two entities shall be coordinated and controlled by the
5 Commission;
- 6 (7) To make studies and recommendations for the improvement of fire
7 prevention and control and rescue services in the State and to make
8 studies and recommendations for the coordination and implementation
9 of effective fire prevention and control and rescue services and for
10 effective fire prevention and control and rescue services education;
- 11 (8) To set objectives and priorities for the improvement of fire prevention
12 and control and rescue services throughout the State;
- 13 (9) To advise State and local interests of opportunities for securing federal
14 assistance for fire prevention and control and rescue services and for
15 improving fire prevention and control and rescue services
16 administration and planning within the State of North Carolina;
- 17 (10) To assist State agencies and institutions of local government and
18 combinations thereof in the preparation and processing of applications
19 for financial aid and to support fire prevention and control, rescue
20 services, and planning and administration;
- 21 (11) To encourage and assist coordination at the federal, State and local
22 government levels in the preparation and implementation of fire
23 prevention and control and rescue services administrative
24 improvements and crime reduction plans;
- 25 (12) To apply for, receive, disburse and audit the use of funds received
26 from any public and private agencies and instrumentalities for fire
27 prevention and control and rescue services, their administration and
28 plans therefor;
- 29 (13) To enter into monitoring and evaluating the results of contracts and
30 agreements necessary or incidental to the discharge of its assigned
31 responsibilities;
- 32 (14) To provide technical assistance to State and local fire prevention and
33 control and rescue agencies in developing programs for improvement;
- 34 (14a) To serve as a central office for the collection and dissemination
35 of information relative to fire service and rescue service
36 activities and programs in State government. All State
37 government agencies conducting fire service and rescue service
38 related programs and activities shall report the status of these
39 programs and activities to the Commission on a quarterly basis
40 and they shall also report to the Commission any new programs
41 or changes to existing programs as they are implemented;
- 42 (14b) To establish voluntary minimum professional qualifications for
43 all levels of fire service and rescue service personnel;

1 (14c) To prepare an annual report to the Governor on its fire prevention and
2 control activities and plans, rescue activities and plans, and to
3 recommend legislation concerning fire prevention and control and
4 rescue services; ~~and~~

5 (14d) To reimburse the members of the Commission's certification board, in
6 accordance with G.S. 138-5, for travel and subsistence expenses
7 incurred by them in their duties as certification board officers; and

8 (15) To take such other actions as may be deemed necessary or appropriate
9 to carry out its assigned duties and responsibilities."

10 Sec. 2. The North Carolina Fire and Rescue Commission is authorized four
11 staff positions to administer fire and rescue certification programs. Of the four
12 positions, three shall be field positions and one shall be clerical. The positions shall be
13 funded by the Department of Insurance Fund and shall become part of the Commission's
14 continuation budget.

15 Sec. 3. This act is effective upon ratification except for Section 2 of this act
16 which becomes effective July 1, 1993.