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WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 1987



ENROLLED

SENATE BILL NO. 323

(By Senator Jones, President, et al)



PASSED March 10, 1987

In Effect ninety days from Passage



ENROLLED

Senate Bill No. 323

(BY SENATORS TONKOVICH, MR. PRESIDENT, JONES AND CHERNENKO)

[Passed March 10, 1987, in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend chapter thirty of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, by adding thereto a new article, designated article twenty-nine-a, relating to standards for professional fire fighters training; definitions; original appointment; professional fire fighters certification board; duties of board; certification requirements; review of certification; and compliance.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That chapter thirty of the code of West Virginia, one thousand nine hundred thirty-one, as amended, be amended by adding thereto a new article, designated article twenty-nine-a, to read as follows:

**ARTICLE 29A. STANDARDS FOR PROFESSIONAL FIRE FIGHTERS
TRAINING; REGISTERED APPRENTICESHIP AND
CERTIFICATION.**

§30-29A-1. Definitions.

- 1 For the purposes of this article, unless a different
- 2 meaning clearly appears in the context:
- 3 "Bureau of apprenticeship and training" means the
- 4 bureau of apprenticeship and training of the United States
- 5 Department of Labor;
- 6 "Certificate of certification" means a certificate issued
- 7 by the bureau of apprenticeship and training stating that a
- 8 person has complied with the standards set forth in this
- 9 article;
- 10 "Local training board" means the board of the local paid
- 11 fire department required to be established by the standards
- 12 set forth in section two of this article;

13 “Municipality” means any incorporated town or city
14 whose boundaries lie within the geographic boundaries of
15 the state;

16 “Paid fire department” means those paid fire
17 departments established under the provisions of section
18 nine, article fifteen, chapter eight of this code;

19 “Professional fire fighter” means those persons who are
20 employed by a municipality in the state that has a paid fire
21 department;

22 “State” means the state of West Virginia;

23 “State board” means the professional fire fighters
24 certification board as established in section three of this
25 article;

26 “West Virginia professional fire chiefs association”
27 means the association representing paid fire chiefs in the
28 state of West Virginia; and

29 “West Virginia professional fire fighters association”
30 means the association representing paid fire fighters in the
31 state of West Virginia.

§30-29A-2. Original appointments.

1 Original appointments to paid fire departments shall
2 enroll and complete the requirements as registered with the
3 bureau of apprenticeship and training of the United States
4 Department of Labor.

5 On and after the effective date of this article, all original
6 appointments in a paid fire department subject to the civil
7 service provisions of section sixteen, article fifteen, chapter
8 eight of this code, shall enroll and complete the
9 requirements as registered with the bureau of
10 apprenticeship and training of the United States
11 Department of Labor, for the craft of fire fighting.

§30-29A-3. Professional fire fighters certification board.

1 (a) A professional fire fighters certification board is
2 hereby created and assigned responsibility for review of
3 programs and standards, for training of apprenticeship and
4 certification of professional fire fighters in the state. The
5 state board shall be comprised of five members including
6 two representatives appointed by each of the following: The
7 West Virginia professional fire fighters association; the
8 West Virginia professional fire chiefs association; and one
9 representative from the bureau of apprenticeship and
10 training of the United Sates Department of Labor.

11 (b) The state board shall elect a chairperson. Meetings
12 may be held upon the call of the chairperson. A majority of
13 the members of the state board constitutes a quorum.

§30-29A-4. Duties of the professional fire fighters certification board.

1 The professional fire fighters certification board shall, by
2 or pursuant to rule or regulation:

3 (a) Establish standards governing the quality of
4 training of paid fire departments in the state pursuant to
5 section two of this article.

6 (b) Establish the level of skill required for certification.

7 (c) Promulgate rules and procedures for the local
8 training board to follow in securing certification of a paid
9 fire fighter by the bureau of apprenticeship and training of
10 the United States Department of Labor.

11 (d) Certify the paid fire fighter as provided in section
12 five of this article and request a certificate of certification
13 from the bureau of apprenticeship and training of the
14 United States Department of Labor to the person that has
15 qualified.

§30-29A-5. Certification requirements.

1 Standards for certification must meet or exceed those of
2 the National Fire Protection Association Standards No.
3 1001 as amended and updated from year to year.

§30-29A-6. Review of certification.

1 Certification of each person certified as provided in
2 section four of this article shall be reviewed annually, by the
3 state board, in order to update that person's knowledge of
4 new or improved procedures in this profession.

§30-29A-7. Compliance.

1 The state board shall ensure employer and employee
2 compliance with this article. The chief of the paid fire
3 department and the local training board shall see and
4 assure compliance with all established criteria. The
5 individuals mentioned in this section and in section three of
6 this article, shall be in full sympathy with the purposes of
7 the training and apprenticeship and certification
8 provisions of this article.

The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

[Handwritten Signature]
.....
Chairman Senate Committee

[Handwritten Signature]
.....
Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

In effect ninety days from passage.

[Handwritten Signature]
.....
Clerk of the Senate

[Handwritten Signature]
.....
Clerk of the House of Delegates

[Handwritten Signature]
.....
President of the Senate

[Handwritten Signature]
.....
Speaker House of Delegates

The within... *Approved* this the *17th*
March
day of , 1987.

[Handwritten Signature]
.....
Governor



PRESENTED TO THE

GOVERNOR

Date 3/12/87

Time 12:23 p.m.