WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE
EIGHTIETH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION, 2012

ENROLLED
COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
FOR
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FOR

Senate Bill No. 343

(Senators Laird, Kessler (Mr. President),
Unger, Klempa, Nohe, Browning, Plymale,
Yost, Jenkins and Beach, original sponsors)

[Passed February 20, 2012; in effect ninety days from passage.]
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[Passed February 20, 2012; in effect ninety days from passage.]

AN ACT to amend and reenact §8-15-8a of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to the eligibility of volunteer or part volunteer fire companies or departments to allocation from municipal pensions and protection fund and the Fire Protection Fund; providing requirements for eligibility; providing a grace period for these volunteer fire companies or departments to comply with submission of data; making certain exemptions from reporting requirements; and requiring the State Fire Marshal to notify these volunteer fire companies or departments of the dates and grace period.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That §8-15-8a of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and reenacted to read as follows:
ARTICLE 15. FIRE FIGHTING; FIRE COMPANIES AND DEPARTMENTS; CIVIL SERVICE FOR PAID FIRE DEPARTMENTS.


(a) In order to be eligible to receive revenues allocated from the municipal pensions and protection fund or the Fire Protection Fund, each volunteer or part volunteer fire company or department must meet the following requirements:

(1) Submit and maintain current submission of fire loss data to the State Fire Marshal;

(2) Complete or be in the process of receiving firefighters training, including section one of the West Virginia University fire service extension or its equivalent. The fire company or department must have at least ten members certified as having completed the training or if a volunteer fire company or department has twenty or fewer members, fifty percent of the active volunteer members must have completed such training; and

(3) Comply with all applicable federal and state laws.

(b) Each volunteer or part volunteer fire company or department shall have a grace period of ninety days, beyond the allocation date in which to comply with submission requirements to the State Fire Marshal. The State Fire Marshal shall notify each volunteer or part volunteer fire company or department of the due date for submitting the information required by this section and the grace period by certified mailing requiring signature and a return receipt.

(c) When the records of a volunteer or part volunteer fire company or department are destroyed by a fire or other natural disaster, then the affected volunteer or part volunteer fire company or department is exempt from the provisions of subdivision (1), subsection (a) of this section, for the three months period immediately following the destruction of the records.
The Joint Committee on Enrolled Bills hereby certifies that the foregoing bill is correctly enrolled.

Chairman Senate Committee

Chairman House Committee

Originated in the Senate.

In effect ninety days from passage.

Clerk of the Senate

Clerk of the House of Delegates

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Delegates

The within is approved this the 28th Day of February, 2012.

Governor