

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 54th Legislature (2013)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
4 FOR

5 SENATE BILL NO. 682

By: Barrington and Halligan of
the Senate

6 and

7 Billy and Armes of the
8 House

9
10 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

11 An Act relating to fire service training; stating
12 purpose of Oklahoma State University Fire Service
13 Training; providing duties and responsibilities;
14 directing collaboration with the Oklahoma Council on
15 Firefighter Training; directing adoption and delivery
16 of training programs, curriculum and instructional
17 materials; directing collaboration with technology
18 center schools; providing for maintenance of training
19 records; directing establishment of certification
20 program; specifying source of certain programs;
21 providing for maintenance of trainer list; directing
22 Oklahoma State University Fire Service Training to
23 serve as certain designee; directing submission of
24 certain report; providing for certain construction;
amending 70 O.S. 2011, Section 628.9, which relates
to funding for Oklahoma State University Fire Service
Training; clarifying provision of certain funds;
amending 74 O.S. 2011, Section 325.3, which relates
to protocol for certain fire incidents; removing duty
of maintaining records; providing for codification;
and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

1 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
2 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 3401.2 of Title 70, unless there
3 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

4 A. The purpose of Oklahoma State University Fire Service
5 Training (OSU FST) shall be to develop, deliver, support and
6 evaluate training, education and professional certification programs
7 for fire service in this state to ensure emergency responders may
8 safely and successfully perform their duties.

9 B. OSU FST shall:

10 1. Deliver and support training and education programs for fire
11 service and other emergency responders in this state to meet local
12 and state needs by:

13 a. collaborating with technology center schools and other
14 training providers to ensure training, training
15 support and support of certification testing is
16 readily available to all areas of the state to
17 accomplish the Oklahoma Council on Firefighter
18 Training (COFT) annual state training plan and
19 regional training plans which are voluntarily
20 developed and adopted, and

21 b. collaborating with technology center schools and other
22 training providers to develop and maintain a database
23 of available instructors to teach fire and emergency
24 responder topics. The database shall be maintained on

1 the OSU FST website and made available to other
2 training providers;

3 2. Collaborate with COFT on efforts which shall include but not
4 be limited to participation in the activities of the COFT training
5 task force and initiatives intended to accomplish COFT firefighter
6 training goals;

7 3. Develop or adopt and disseminate curriculum and
8 instructional materials to fire departments and training providers
9 consistent with state and federal statutory requirements for
10 classes, courses and programs for delivery to fire service in this
11 state, with every effort being made to provide the curriculum and
12 materials at minimal or no cost. Unless required by state or federal
13 regulations, selection, adoption and/or use of the OSU FST-
14 disseminated curriculum and training materials or instructors shall
15 be at the discretion of each training provider or local fire
16 department;

17 4. Maintain and make available by electronic means, in a manner
18 consistent with state and federal regulations, to the Oklahoma
19 Council on Firefighter Training, fire chiefs, training officers and
20 other agencies as required by law, as requested, all training and
21 certification records of Oklahoma firefighters who participate in
22 training sponsored by OSU FST or records provided to OSU FST by
23 local fire departments or other training agencies. The provisions of
24

1 this paragraph shall not apply to state and federal wild land fire
2 agencies;

3 5. Develop, administer and evaluate an accredited certification
4 program available to all firefighters and other emergency responders
5 based on National Fire Protection Association standards and/or state
6 and federal standards. The program shall:

7 a. be accredited through the International Fire Service
8 Accreditation Congress and/or the National Board on
9 Fire Service Professional Qualifications at levels
10 deemed beneficial to fire service in this state,

11 b. provide for dissemination to recognized certification
12 partners and posting to the OSU FST's website a list
13 of qualified proctors and evaluators for use during
14 certification events, and

15 c. develop, as appropriate, special certifications based
16 on state standards adopted by COFT or other state
17 agencies that are designed for emergency responders in
18 this state, which may not be accredited; and

19 6. Fulfill any other statutory requirements set forth by the
20 Legislature.

21 C. OSU FST shall be the Oklahoma state agency representative to
22 the United States Fire Administration's National Fire Academy and
23 shall be responsible for delivering and disseminating training
24

1 courses provided by or made available through the National Fire
2 Academy.

3 D. Beginning September 15, 2014, and continuing on September 15
4 every following year, OSU FST shall submit an annual report
5 regarding its programs, activity and accomplishments to the Chair of
6 the Board of Regents for the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical
7 Colleges, the President of Oklahoma State University and the Dean of
8 the Oklahoma State University College of Engineering, Architecture
9 and Technology.

10 E. Nothing in this section shall be construed to divert funding
11 from one entity to another. Nothing in this section shall be
12 construed to limit, preclude or exempt an organization, agency or
13 local department from delivery of training; development, adoption or
14 dissemination of training curriculum or materials; or issuance of a
15 certificate of completion of training.

16 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 70 O.S. 2011, Section 628.9, is
17 amended to read as follows:

18 Section 628.9. The State Regents ~~should~~ may provide to Oklahoma
19 State University, in addition to that institution's regular budget
20 allocation for educational and general operating functions, a
21 separate allocation of sufficient funds for underwriting the costs
22 of special programs in fire protection to be carried out through ~~the~~
23 ~~Department of Fire Service Training at the institution~~ Oklahoma
24 State University Fire Service Training; and, the Legislature further

1 expresses its intent that the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher
2 Education provide sufficient funds to expand the program of fire
3 training adequate to meet the needs of the State of Oklahoma, since
4 such program is a matter of essential public interest and safety.

5 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 74 O.S. 2011, Section 325.3, is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 Section 325.3. A. Oklahoma State University Fire Service
8 Training in conjunction with the Oklahoma Office of Homeland
9 Security and the Oklahoma Council on Firefighter Training (COFT)
10 shall develop a program to educate firefighters on a unified command
11 protocol for ~~fire~~ emergency incidents occurring in this state. This
12 program shall be offered statewide by Oklahoma State University Fire
13 Service Training. Methods of training may include, but are not
14 limited to:

- 15 1. Live classroom sessions with approved instructors;
- 16 2. Live exercises and drills with approved instructors;
- 17 3. Interactive television;
- 18 4. Independent study; and
- 19 5. Web-based methods.

20 B. The training program shall be in compliance with the
21 National Incident Management System (NIMS) and shall include
22 provisions consistent with the National Fire Protection Association
23 training courses.

24

1 C. The program shall have curriculum and training materials
2 that are consistently utilized by all training providers at all
3 training locations.

4 D. Subject to funding, these programs shall be offered at
5 facilities approved by Oklahoma State University Fire Service
6 Training and shall include, but not be limited to, other
7 institutions of higher education, ~~Oklahoma Department of Career and~~
8 ~~Technology Education~~ technology center school facilities, local fire
9 departments and other qualified entities.

10 ~~E. All firefighter training records for this state shall be~~
11 ~~maintained by Oklahoma State University Fire Service Training and~~
12 ~~shall be made available to the Oklahoma Council on Firefighter~~
13 ~~Training as requested. The provisions of this subsection shall not~~
14 ~~apply to state and federal wild land fire agencies~~ Oklahoma State
15 University Fire Service Training shall carry out all duties and
16 responsibilities in accordance with Section 1 of this act.

17 SECTION 4. This act shall become effective November 1, 2013.

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