

1 ENGROSSED SENATE
2 BILL NO. 682

By: Barrington, Halligan and
Fields of the Senate

3 and

4 Billy and Armes of the
5 House

6
7 An Act relating to fire service training; stating
8 purpose of Oklahoma State University Fire Service
9 Training; providing duties and responsibilities;
10 directing collaboration with the Oklahoma Council on
11 Firefighter Training; directing adoption and delivery
12 of training programs, curriculum and instructional
13 materials; directing collaboration with technology
14 center schools; providing for maintenance of training
15 records; directing establishment of certification
16 program; specifying source of certain programs;
17 providing for maintenance of trainer list; directing
18 Oklahoma State University Fire Service Training to
19 serve as certain designee; directing submission of
20 certain report; providing for certain construction;
21 amending 70 O.S. 2011, Section 628.9, which relates
22 to funding for Oklahoma State University Fire Service
23 Training; clarifying provision of certain funds;
24 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:

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

A. The purpose of Oklahoma State University Fire Service
Training (OSU FST) shall be to develop, deliver, support and

1 evaluate training, education and professional certification programs
2 for fire service in this state to ensure emergency responders may
3 safely and successfully perform their duties.

4 B. OSU FST shall:

5 1. Deliver and support training and education programs for fire
6 service and other emergency responders in this state to meet local
7 and state needs by:

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

16 b. collaborating with technology center schools and other
17 training providers to develop and maintain a database
18 of available instructors to teach fire and emergency
19 responder topics. The database shall be maintained on
20 the OSU FST website and made available to other
21 training providers;

22 2. Collaborate with COFT on efforts which shall include but not
23 be limited to participation in the activities of the COFT training
24

1 task force and initiatives intended to accomplish COFT firefighter
2 training goals;

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

13 4. Maintain and make available by electronic means, in a manner
14 consistent with state and federal regulations, to the Oklahoma
15 Council on Firefighter Training, fire chiefs, training officers and
16 other agencies as required by law, as requested, all training and
17 certification records of Oklahoma firefighters who participate in
18 training sponsored by OSU FST or records provided to OSU FST by
19 local fire departments or other training agencies. The provisions
20 of this paragraph shall not apply to state and federal wild land
21 fire agencies;

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

3 a. be accredited through the International Fire Service
4 Accreditation Congress and/or the National Board on
5 Fire Service Professional Qualifications at levels
6 deemed beneficial to fire service in this state,

7 b. provide for dissemination to recognized certification
8 partners and posting to the OSU FST's website a list
9 of qualified proctors and evaluators for use during
10 certification events, and

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

15 6. Fulfill any other statutory requirements set forth by the
16 Legislature.

17 C. OSU FST shall be the Oklahoma state agency representative to
18 the United States Fire Administration's National Fire Academy and
19 shall be responsible for delivering and disseminating training
20 courses provided by or made available through the National Fire
21 Academy.

22 D. Beginning September 15, 2014, and continuing on September 15
23 every following year, OSU FST shall submit an annual report
24 regarding its programs, activity and accomplishments to the Chair of

1 the Board of Regents for the Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical
2 Colleges, the President of Oklahoma State University and the Dean of
3 the Oklahoma State University College of Engineering, Architecture
4 and Technology.

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

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

13 Section 628.9. The State Regents ~~should~~ may provide to Oklahoma
14 State University, in addition to that institution's regular budget
15 allocation for educational and general operating functions, a
16 separate allocation of sufficient funds for underwriting the costs
17 of special programs in fire protection to be carried out through ~~the~~
18 ~~Department of Fire Service Training at the institution~~ Oklahoma
19 State University Fire Service Training; and, the Legislature further
20 expresses its intent that the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher
21 Education provide sufficient funds to expand the program of fire
22 training adequate to meet the needs of the State of Oklahoma, since
23 such program is a matter of essential public interest and safety.

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

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

- 11 1. Live classroom sessions with approved instructors;
- 12 2. Live exercises and drills with approved instructors;
- 13 3. Interactive television;
- 14 4. Independent study; and
- 15 5. Web-based methods.

16 B. The training program shall be in compliance with the
17 National Incident Management System (NIMS) and shall include
18 provisions consistent with the National Fire Protection Association
19 training courses.

20 C. The program shall have curriculum and training materials
21 that are consistently utilized by all training providers at all
22 training locations.

23 D. Subject to funding, these programs shall be offered at
24 facilities approved by Oklahoma State University Fire Service

1 Training and shall include, but not be limited to, other
2 institutions of higher education, ~~Oklahoma Department of Career and~~
3 ~~Technology Education~~ technology center school facilities, local fire
4 departments and other qualified entities.

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

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

13 Passed the Senate the 5th day of March, 2013.

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Presiding Officer of the Senate

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17 Passed the House of Representatives the ____ day of _____,

18 2013.

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Presiding Officer of the House
of Representatives

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