



HOUSE BILL 666: Revise Volunteer Fire Department Requirements.

2017-2018 General Assembly

Committee:		Date:	August 29, 2017
Introduced by:		Prepared by:	Jessica Sammons Staff Attorney
Analysis of:	S.L. 2017-167		

OVERVIEW: *S.L. 2017-666 revises the primary personnel requirement to allow a fire department to apply for a waiver from the requirement that the fire department maintain 20 primary personnel on its certified state roster, provided that the requirement is not reduced below 15 primary personnel.*

This act became effective July 21, 2017.

CURRENT LAW: 11 NCAC 05A.0504 (Primary Personnel) provides: "Upon initial or re-inspection for certification as a Class '9S' fire department, the fire department shall have 20 primary personnel. No eligible firefighter may be counted as a primary firefighter of two, on call, volunteer departments. At the time of re-inspection, a fire department shall maintain 20 primary personnel on their certified state roster. At least one engine with four personnel must respond to each reported structure fire, which includes fire alarm activations where fire or damage has occurred. For the purpose of this Section 'primary personnel' means an eligible firefighter that is associated with the fire department for the purpose of satisfying certification inspection requirements."

BILL ANALYSIS: This act requires the Department of Insurance (DOI) to implement 11 NC 05A.0504 as follows:

- DOI must provide that for the purpose of satisfying certification inspection requirements, a fire department may apply to DOI for a waiver from the requirement that the fire department maintain 20 primary personnel.
- The Office of State Fire Marshall at DOI may find that a waiver is justified based on the volume of calls received by the fire department and whether the waiver would cause a significant deterioration in the response capability of the fire department.
- A waiver must not reduce the primary personnel requirement below 15.

This act also directs the Rules Review Commission to amend the Primary Personnel Rule consistent with these provisions.

EFFECTIVE DATE: This act became effective July 21, 2017.

Karen Cochrane-Brown
Director



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Legislative Analysis
Division
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