

By Senator Campbell

32-585-05

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to firefighter training
3 certification; amending s. 633.35, F.S.;
4 providing for issuance of a certificate of
5 compliance of firefighter training by the
6 Division of State Fire Marshal to a person who
7 holds a federal firefighter certification;
8 defining the term "federal firefighter
9 certification"; amending s. 590.02, F.S., to
10 conform; providing an effective date.

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12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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14 Section 1. Present subsection (4) of section 633.35,
15 Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (5), and a new
16 subsection (4) is added to that section, to read:

17 633.35 Firefighter training and certification.--

18 (4) The division shall issue a certificate to a person
19 who has received a federal firefighter certification when the
20 division has determined that the certification standards used
21 by the United States Department of Defense to provide that
22 certification to such person are at least equivalent to those
23 required by the division for approved firefighter education
24 and training programs in this state and when such person has
25 satisfactorily complied with the other requirements of this
26 chapter. As used in this subsection "federal firefighter
27 certification" means a certification issued by the United
28 States Department of Defense to a person who has successfully
29 completed the required courses and examinations of the
30 Military Fire Academy of the United States Department of
31 Defense which is located in San Angelo, Texas. Before issuing

1 a certificate under this subsection, the division must receive
2 written verification from the United States Department of
3 Defense confirming that such person has a federal firefighter
4 certification that is currently valid and is in good standing
5 with that department.

6 Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 590.02, Florida
7 Statutes, is amended to read:

8 590.02 Division powers, authority, and duties;
9 liability; building structures; Florida Center for Wildfire
10 and Forest Resources Management Training.--

11 (1) The division has the following powers, authority,
12 and duties:

13 (a) To enforce ~~the provisions of~~ this chapter;

14 (b) To prevent, detect, suppress, and extinguish
15 wildfires wherever they may occur on public or private land in
16 this state and to do all things necessary in the exercise of
17 such powers, authority, and duties;

18 (c) To provide firefighting crews, who shall be under
19 the control and direction of the division and its designated
20 agents;

21 (d) To appoint center managers, forest area
22 supervisors, forestry program administrators, a forest
23 protection bureau chief, a forest protection assistant bureau
24 chief, a field operations bureau chief, deputy chiefs of field
25 operations, district managers, senior forest rangers,
26 investigators, forest rangers, firefighter rotorcraft pilots,
27 and other employees who may, at the division's discretion, be
28 certified as forestry firefighters pursuant to s. 633.35 ~~s.~~
29 ~~633.35(4)~~. Other provisions of law notwithstanding, center
30 managers, district managers, forest protection assistant
31 bureau chief, and deputy chiefs of field operations shall have

1 Selected Exempt Service status in the state personnel
2 designation;

3 (e) To develop a training curriculum for forestry
4 firefighters which must contain the basic volunteer structural
5 fire training course approved by the Florida State Fire
6 College of the Division of State Fire Marshal and a minimum of
7 250 hours of wildfire training;

8 (f) To make rules to accomplish the purposes of this
9 chapter;

10 (g) To provide fire management services and emergency
11 response assistance and to set and charge reasonable fees for
12 performance of those services. Moneys collected from such fees
13 shall be deposited into the Incidental Trust Fund of the
14 division; and

15 (h) To require all state, regional, and local
16 government agencies operating aircraft in the vicinity of an
17 ongoing wildfire to operate in compliance with the applicable
18 state Wildfire Aviation Plan.

19 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.

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22 SENATE SUMMARY

23 Provides for issuance of a certificate of compliance in
24 firefighter training by the Division of State Fire
25 Marshal to a person who has a federal firefighter
certification. Defines the term "federal firefighter
certification."

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