

HOUSE BILL NO. HB0168

Fire protection district review task force.

Sponsored by: Representative(s) Landon, Berger, Iekel,
Illoway and Lubnau and Senator(s) Burns,
Meier and Schiffer

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to fire protection districts; creating a
2 task force to review fire protection district statutes,
3 responsibilities and immunities; requiring a report;
4 providing an appropriation; and providing for an effective
5 date.

6

7 *Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:*

8

9 **Section 1.**

10

11 (a) There is appropriated from the general fund to
12 the governor's office thirty thousand dollars (\$30,000.00)
13 to be used for a task force on fire protection districts.
14 The task force shall study issues and propose legislation
15 relating to the issues specified in section (c) of this
16 section.

1

2 (b) The task force shall consist of thirteen (13)
3 members as follows:

4

5 (i) One (1) member of the house of
6 representatives corporations, elections and political
7 subdivisions committee, appointed by the speaker of the
8 house. This member shall serve as cochairman of the task
9 force;

10

11 (ii) One (1) member of the senate corporations,
12 elections and political subdivisions committee, appointed
13 by the president of the senate. This member shall serve as
14 cochairman of the task force;

15

16 (iii) Five (5) members which shall include one
17 (1) member from each of the state's five (5) forestry
18 districts, appointed by the governor;

19

20 (iv) One (1) member who represents the interests
21 of fire protection district boards and is a board member of
22 a fire protection district in this state, appointed by the
23 governor;

24

1 (v) One (1) member who represents the interests
2 of volunteer firemen and who is a volunteer fireman for a
3 fire protection district in this state, appointed by the
4 governor;

5

6 (vi) One (1) member who is a county attorney,
7 appointed by the governor;

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9 (vii) One (1) member from the attorney general's
10 office, appointed by the governor;

11

12 (viii) One (1) member from the state forester's
13 office, appointed by the governor;

14

15 (ix) One (1) member from the state fire
16 marshal's office, appointed by the governor.

17

18 (c) State agencies shall provide information and
19 other support to the task force as requested. The
20 governor's office shall staff the task force. The task
21 force shall meet and shall report to the governor and the
22 joint corporations, elections and political subdivisions
23 interim committee its findings and recommendations for
24 statutory changes not later than October 1, 2006. The

1 findings and recommendations shall address:

2

3 (i) Fire protection district statute
4 modifications to reduce redundancy and minimize paperwork
5 for volunteers;

6

7 (ii) Statutory provisions for creation and
8 dissolution of fire protection districts;

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10 (iii) Methods of providing broader authority for
11 fire protection districts to respond to emergencies other
12 than fires and to respond to fires outside of the fire
13 protection district;

14

15 (iv) Methods of improving immunity protection
16 for volunteer firemen; and

17

18 (v) Fire protection district statute
19 modifications to meet current and projected needs of the
20 state.

21

22 (d) Legislative members of the task force shall be
23 compensated as provided for attendance at legislative
24 committee meetings. State employee members of the task

1 force shall receive no additional compensation for
2 performance of their duties under this act. All other
3 members of the task force shall be paid per diem and
4 mileage as provided for legislators under W.S. 28-5-101.

5

6 **Section 2.** This act is effective immediately upon
7 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law
8 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
9 Constitution.

10

11

(END)