

HCS HB 1508 -- FIRE DEPARTMENTS

SPONSOR: Lipke (Bruns)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Crime Prevention and Public Safety by a vote of 12 to 0.

This substitute defines "fire department" as it relates to the laws regarding the jurisdiction and duties of the State Fire Marshal. Fire departments must file a fire department registration form by March 2, 2007; and the State Fire Marshal may issue each fire department an identification number based upon the registration. A volunteer fire protection association is required to identify and register its boundaries, which cannot overlap another district, with its county governing body.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2007, FY 2008, and FY 2009.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that "fire department" is not currently defined in statute. It is important to do so in order for a department to apply for federal grants and training funds.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Bruns; State Fire Marshal; Missouri Fire Service Alliance; and Missouri State Council of Firefighters.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Kristina Jenkins, Legislative Analyst