

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 425

BY REPRESENTATIVE SCHEXNAYDER

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 40:1541, relative to firemen training; to provide for the firemen
3 training program at Louisiana State University; to provide relative to participation
4 in the program; to increase the membership of the Louisiana Fire and Emergency
5 Training Commission; to revise the commission's powers and duties; and to provide
6 for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 40:1541 is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

9 §1541. Louisiana State University; official agency for training

10 A. Louisiana State University is hereby officially designated as the agency
11 of this state to conduct at its Baton Rouge campus training for in-service firemen on
12 a statewide basis in which firemen from any and all duly constituted fire departments
13 and private or commercial industrial and allied emergency services may participate,
14 and to coordinate and conduct other firemen training programs at other training
15 locations as provided in this Part. This Part shall not be construed as affecting the
16 authority of any fire department to conduct training for its own personnel.

17 B. Louisiana State University shall conduct training programs and perform
18 its functions as provided in this Part with the advice and guidance of the Louisiana
19 Fire and Emergency Training Commission created by this Section.

20 C.(1) The Louisiana Fire and Emergency Training Commission, referred to
21 in this Part as the "commission", is hereby created.

1 (2) The commission shall be composed of ~~nine~~ eleven members as follows:

2 (a) One member shall be the state fire marshal or his designee.

3 (b) One member shall be the Louisiana State University-Baton Rouge
4 chancellor or his designee.

5 (c) Two members shall be selected by the Louisiana State Firemen's
6 Association.

7 (d) Two members shall be selected by the Louisiana ~~State Fire Chiefs~~ Fire
8 Chiefs Association.

9 (e) Two members shall be selected by the Professional Firefighters'
10 Association of Louisiana.

11 (f) One member shall be a Louisiana citizen with knowledge and experience
12 in the field of fire and emergency services appointed by the governor.

13 (g) One member shall be a person who is currently in active service with a
14 Louisiana fire department and has been active for at least ten years, appointed by the
15 governor upon recommendation of the commission.

16 (h) One member shall be a person with knowledge and experience and active
17 in the field of industrial fire and emergency services, appointed by the governor upon
18 recommendation of the commission.

19 (3) Members shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority. A
20 vacancy shall be filled in the manner of the original appointment.

21 (4) Members shall serve without compensation or reimbursement for
22 expenses.

23 (5) The commission annually, at the first meeting of the calendar year, shall
24 elect from its members a chairman and vice chairman. The chairman and vice
25 chairman shall serve as such for a period of one year from the date of election.

26 (6) Commission members shall be considered state officers for purposes of
27 R.S. 9:2798.1 and Chapter 16-A of Subtitle III of Title 39 of the Louisiana Revised
28 Statutes of 1950.

29 (7) The commission shall meet at least once each month. Other meetings
30 may be called by the chairman on his own initiative and shall be called by him at the

1 request of three or more members of the commission within fourteen days of such
 2 request. Each member shall be notified by the chairman in writing of the time and
 3 place of a meeting at least seven days before the meeting.

4 (8) The commission shall adopt rules for the conduct of commission
 5 functions. Any decision of the commission may be made only by the favorable vote
 6 of at least two-thirds of those members in attendance at the meeting provided that a
 7 quorum is established prior to the vote. A majority of members of the commission
 8 shall constitute a quorum.

9 ~~D.(1) The Louisiana Fire and Emergency Training Commission shall advise~~
 10 ~~and provide guidance to Louisiana State University relative to the conduct of training~~
 11 ~~programs and performance of the university's functions pursuant to this Part.~~

12 (2) The commission shall provide advice ~~and~~, guidance, and
 13 recommendations to the university relative to the approval of matters including but
 14 not limited to the following:

15 ~~(a)(1)~~ Hiring a qualified person to serve as executive director, including
 16 review of candidates for the position, ~~and~~ fixing the salary ~~of and~~, defining the
 17 duties, ~~of the executive director~~ and recommending to Louisiana State University the
 18 final selection of a candidate. The commission shall be given not less than sixty days
 19 after the posting of a vacancy in the position to recommend a candidate to fill the
 20 vacancy.

21 ~~(b)(2)~~ Employment of management, other directors, and clerical, technical,
 22 legal, and other assistance for the conduct of the university's functions pursuant to
 23 this Part, including the defining of duties. The commission shall be given not less
 24 than sixty days after the posting of a vacancy in any position to recommend a
 25 candidate to fill the vacancy.

26 ~~(c)(3)~~ All aspects of the conduct of fire and emergency training and training
 27 programs, including curricula and performance of the university's functions pursuant
 28 to this Part.

29 ~~(d)(4)~~ Prioritization of training throughout the state.

1 ~~(e)~~(5) The annual budget for the conduct of the university's functions
 2 pursuant to this Part, including management of funds and recovery of the cost of
 3 classes. The university shall submit the proposed annual budget for the program to
 4 the commission for review prior to its final adoption.

5 ~~(f)~~(6) Recommendations to be made by the university to the legislature
 6 relative to the university's functions pursuant to this Part.

7 (7) The acceptance of any and all appropriate donations and grants of money,
 8 equipment, supplies, materials, and services and their receipt, use, and disposal. The
 9 commission shall be apprised of all grant opportunities available to the Louisiana
 10 State University Fire and Emergency Training Institute and all grant applications
 11 submitted on behalf of the institute individually or in conjunction with other
 12 institutions or programs of the university.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____