

1 SB324
2 211425-1
3 By Senators Smitherman, Hatcher and Coleman-Madison
4 RFD: Governmental Affairs
5 First Read: 11-MAR-21

SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, certain employees of firefighting agencies of a Class 1 municipality are not required to meet the minimum physical requirements as a trainee for firefighter as prescribed by the Alabama Firefighters' Personnel Standards and Education Commission.

This bill would provide that a paramedic employed by a firefighting agency of any Class 1 municipality is not required to meet the minimum physical requirements as a trainee for firefighter as prescribed by the Alabama Firefighters' Personnel Standards and Education Commission.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to firefighting agencies; to amend Section 36-32-7, Code of Alabama 1975; to provide that paramedics

1 employed by a firefighting agency of a Class 1 municipality
2 are exempt from certain physical fitness requirements.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

4 Section 1. Section 36-32-7, Code of Alabama 1975, is
5 amended to read as follows:

6 "§36-32-7.

7 "(a) ~~Applicability.~~ The minimum standards provided
8 in this section shall apply to trainees who are to be employed
9 as ~~fire-protection~~ fire protection personnel by a public
10 ~~fire-fighting~~ firefighting agency. No city or ~~fire-fighting~~
11 firefighting agency ~~which~~ that provides fire protection to the
12 public shall permanently employ any trainee as ~~fire-protection~~
13 fire protection personnel who has not met the requirements of
14 this section. Provided, however, no fire prevention inspector,
15 fire protection engineer, paramedic, public fire and life
16 safety educator, public safety dispatcher, or person whose
17 duties are solely clerical or secretarial in nature employed
18 as ~~fire-protection~~ fire protection personnel by the
19 ~~fire-fighting~~ firefighting agency of any Class 1 municipality
20 shall be required to meet the minimum physical requirements as
21 a trainee for firefighter as prescribed by the commission.

22 "(b) ~~Employment and qualifications.~~ The A trainee
23 shall be certified by a licensed practicing physician as
24 satisfactory by the appointing authority designated as in good
25 health and physically fit for the performance of his duties as
26 a firefighter and shall meet the employment qualifications of
27 the appointing authority.

1 "~~(c) Training.~~(1) ~~FIRE-PROTECTION PERSONNEL.~~ Prior
2 to permanent employment, or a period not exceeding 12 months
3 after the date of employment, the trainee shall have met the
4 requirements for certification as prescribed by the
5 commission. Training shall be given by an instructor certified
6 by the Alabama Firefighters' Personnel Standards and Education
7 Commission and the training may be administered within the
8 department in which the applicant seeks to serve, if the
9 department meets the requirements of the commission for a
10 training center. Upon the completion of training, the
11 commission shall administer a comprehensive written test to
12 each applicant, and each applicant ~~must~~ shall pass the test as
13 a condition of completion of ~~such~~ the training.

14 "~~(2) VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER.~~ A volunteer firefighter
15 may be certified by the commission as a volunteer firefighter
16 if the volunteer firefighter ~~shall have~~ has met the training
17 requirements prescribed by the commission. ~~Provided,~~ and the
18 training is conducted by an instructor certified by and in
19 facilities approved by the commission. The training need not
20 be during continuous sessions but may be scheduled at
21 different intervals during a period not exceeding 24 months
22 for a total of 160 hours. This subdivision shall not be
23 construed as to mandate training for volunteer firefighters,
24 except for purposes of certification."

25 Section 2. This act shall become effective on the
26 first day of the third month following its passage and
27 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

