

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2019 REGULAR SESSION

Originating

Senate Bill 671

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IHLENFELD, JEFFRIES, LINDSAY, MARONEY, PALUMBO,
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[Originating in the Committee on Government
Organization; Reported on February 23, 2019]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §29-3-8 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating
2 to eliminating the State Fire Marshal's comprehensive report regarding the transfer of
3 authority and responsibility of providing fire services to the counties.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

ARTICLE 3. FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL ACT.

§29-3-8. Comprehensive report by State Fire Marshal.

1 ~~(a) On or before July 1, 2019, the State Fire Marshal shall submit a comprehensive report~~
2 ~~to the Joint Committee on Government and Finance containing a recommended plan for~~
3 ~~transferring authority and responsibility for providing fire services to the counties. Such report~~
4 ~~shall include, but not be limited to, recommendations regarding recommended state oversight of~~
5 ~~such fire services; financial support for fire services, a plan and timeline for transitioning~~
6 ~~responsibility and oversight to the counties; and county authority, oversight, and accountability of~~
7 ~~operations, fiscal planning, financial accountability, and risk management planning. The State Fire~~
8 ~~Marshal shall solicit input from appropriate state agencies, county officials, and other interested~~
9 ~~parties, which shall provide requested information to the State Fire Marshal to assist in~~
10 ~~preparation of the report and recommendation~~

11 ~~(b) On or before July 1, 2019, the State Fire Marshal shall study, prepare, and submit a~~
12 ~~report to the Joint Committee on Government and Finance regarding reciprocity of firefighter and~~
13 ~~fire officer certification with other states. Such report shall include recommendations regarding~~
14 ~~ways to increase availability of reciprocal certification, including any necessary changes to state~~
15 ~~code or regulation necessary to facilitate additional reciprocity.~~

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to eliminate the State Fire Marshal's comprehensive report regarding the transfer of authority and responsibility of fire services to the counties.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.