

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas *As Engrossed: H3/19/13 H3/25/13 H3/27/13 S4/10/13*

89th General Assembly

A Bill

Regular Session, 2013

HOUSE BILL 1695

By: Representatives Catlett, *Wardlaw*

By: Senators *Rapert, B. Sample*

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO REVISE THE LAW ON REIMBURSEMENT TO FIRE DEPARTMENTS FOR CERTAIN SERVICES PROVIDED; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO REVISE THE LAW ON REIMBURSEMENT TO FIRE DEPARTMENTS FOR CERTAIN SERVICES PROVIDED.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 14-53-102(b), *concerning accident response and fire fighting* by a municipal fire department beyond municipal limits, is amended to read as follows:

(b)(1)(A) *When the organized fire department of a city or town combats a fire beyond the corporate limits of the city or town, a reasonable effort ~~must~~ shall be made for ninety (90) days to obtain compensation or reimbursement for the services from the property owner involved.*

~~(2)~~(B) *If the city or town is unable to obtain payment or reimbursement from the property owner for the services within the ninety-day period, the county wherein the property is located may reimburse the municipality for the service in an amount not to exceed two hundred dollars (\$200).*

(C)(i) A claim under this subsection (b) shall be supported by a completed and attached Uniform Fire Department Insurance Reimbursement Billing Form.



(ii) The Arkansas Fire Protection Services Board shall adopt rules to create the form and the allowable rates for reimbursement.

(iii) The board shall use the Schedule of Equipment Rates published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency of the United States Department of Homeland Security, as in effect on January 1, 2013.

(2) The city or town may seek payment or reimbursement from the property owner involved or the county after the ninety-day period for one hundred percent (100%) of the expendable resources the city or town used to respond to an accident if the accident involved personal property only.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 20-22-901(a)(1), concerning the duty of a volunteer fire department to respond, is amended to read as follows:

(a)(1)(A) Upon receipt of a report of an uncontrolled fire or a 911 or other emergency call reporting a fire, it shall be the duty of volunteer fire departments operating within the State of Arkansas to respond to, attempt to control, and put out all fires occurring within their respective districts involving any real or personal property, whether or not that property is owned by members of the fire district.

(B) The volunteer fire department may seek payment or reimbursement from a member or nonmember of the fire district for one hundred percent (100%) of the expendable resources the department used to respond to an accident under subdivision (a)(1)(A) of this section if the accident involved personal property only.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 20-22-901(b)(2), concerning a fire on property owned by a nonmember of a volunteer fire department, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) A claim for services in responding to a fire or accident involving only personal property shall be allowed only for personal property of nonmembers.

(B) The claimed amount under subdivision (b)(2)(A) of this section shall not exceed ~~eight hundred dollars (\$800)~~ one thousand dollars (\$1,000).

(C)(i) A claim under subdivision (b)(2)(A) of this section shall be supported by a completed and attached Uniform Fire Department

Insurance Reimbursement Billing Form.

(ii) The Arkansas Fire Protection Services Board shall adopt rules to create the form and the allowable rates for reimbursement under this subdivision (b)(2).

(iii) The board shall use the Schedule of Equipment Rates published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency of the United States Department of Homeland Security, as in effect on January 1, 2013.

/s/Catlett