

**Introduced by Senator Ashburn**

January 26, 2010

---

An act to amend Section 14831 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to fire protection.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 902, as introduced, Ashburn. Fire protection: county regulation.

Existing law authorizes the organization of fire companies by filing a certificate with the county Fire and Rescue Operational Area Coordinator, as specified. Existing law authorizes a county which has a population of 1,000,000 or more to regulate the formation, continued existence, and ongoing operations of fire companies, as specified.

This bill would remove the requirement that a county have a population of 1,000,000 or more persons in order to regulate the formation, continued existence, and ongoing operations of fire companies.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 14831 of the Health and Safety Code is
- 2 amended to read:
- 3 14831. The board of supervisors of a county ~~which has a~~
- 4 ~~population of 1,000,000 or more on or after January 1, 1985,~~ may,
- 5 by ordinance, regulate the formation and continued existence of
- 6 fire companies. The board of supervisors may authorize the
- 7 formation of any new fire company within the county where it
- 8 determines that a reasonable level of fire services does not already

1 exist and where the provision of supplemental or competing fire  
2 services by any other entity would not result in the mismanagement  
3 of emergencies or in confusion to those seeking aid.

4 The board of supervisors may order that any fire companies  
5 formed pursuant to this part may continue to exist upon making  
6 the determination that the circumstances stated above exist. The  
7 board of supervisors may, by ordinance, establish additional  
8 regulations and criteria for the establishment and ongoing operation  
9 of fire companies organized pursuant to this part.

O