SENATE BILL   No. 902

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 amended, 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 *reduce the population requirement to 400,000* or more persons in order *for a county* 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 *that has a*
4 *population of 400,000 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

1 formation of any new fire company within the county where it
2 determines that a reasonable level of fire services does not already
3 exist and where the provision of supplemental or competing fire
4 services by any other entity would not result in the mismanagement
5 of emergencies or in confusion to those seeking aid.
6   The board of supervisors may order that any fire companies
7 formed pursuant to this part may continue to exist upon making
8 the determination that the circumstances stated above exist. The
9 board of supervisors may, by ordinance, establish additional
10 regulations and criteria for the establishment and ongoing operation
11 of fire companies organized pursuant to this part.

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