GENERAL ASSEMBLY
COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

2015 REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 225

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2015

The following bill was reported to the Senate from the House and ordered to be printed.

RECEIVED AND FILED
DATE April 2, 2015
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ALISON LUNDERGAN GRIMES
SECRETARY OF STATE
COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY
BY R. Adler

1 AN ACT relating to fire departments.

2 ***Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:***

3 ➔Section 1. KRS 95.500 is amended to read as follows:

4 (1) The chief of the fire department in cities or urban-county governments, or an officer
5 acting under his authority, shall be present at all fires and investigate their cause. He
6 may examine witnesses, compel the production of testimony, administer oaths,
7 make arrests, and enter any building for the purpose of examination that, in his
8 opinion, is in danger from fires. He shall report his proceedings to the city
9 legislative body when required.

10 (2) The chief shall direct and control the operations of the members of the fire
11 department in the discharge of their duties. He shall have access to and use of all
12 cisterns, fireplugs, the waters of the waterworks, and the cisterns of private persons,
13 for the purpose of extinguishing fires. He shall have the right to examine all
14 cisterns, and all plugs and pipes of the waterworks, to see that they are in condition
15 for use in case of fire. He shall have control of all buildings, hose, engines, and
16 other equipment provided for the fire department. He shall perform such other
17 duties as the legislative body shall, by ordinance, prescribe.

18 (3) The fire department of each city listed on the registry pursuant to subsection (5) of
19 this section or urban-county government shall be divided into three (3) platoons ***of***
20 ***firefighters***. Each platoon, excluding the chief,~~[and]~~ the assistant chief***, clerical***
21 ***employees, maintenance employees, fire inspectors, and arson investigators,*** in
22 fire departments in the cities listed on the registry or in urban-county governments,
23 shall be on duty for twenty-four (24) consecutive hours, after which the platoon
24 serving twenty-four (24) hours shall be allowed to remain off duty for forty-eight
25 (48) consecutive hours, except in cases of dire emergency. The chief of the fire
26 department shall arrange the schedule of working hours to comply with the
27 provisions of this section. The pay, rank, or benefits of the members and officers of

1 the fire department shall not be reduced as a result of this subsection.
2 (4) In each city or urban-county government listed on the registry, all employees of the
3 fire department shall be given not less than two (2) weeks leave of absence
4 annually, with full pay.
5 (5) On or before January 1, 2015, the Department for Local Government shall create a
6 registry of cities that shall be required to comply with the provisions of subsections
7 (3) and (4) of this section. The Department for Local Government shall include each
8 of those cities on the registry that were classified as cities of the second class on
9 August 1, 2014. The Department for Local Government shall make the information
10 included on the registry available to the public by publishing it on its Web site.

Speaker-House of Representatives

President of Senate

Attest: Chief Clerk of House of Representatives

Approved Governor

Date 4-2-15