



STATE BOARD OF FIRE SERVICES CHARTER

August 22, 2019

SUMMARY

The State Fire Advisory Board was originally created in 1945. In 1973, the State Fire Advisory Board was abolished and replaced with the State Board of Fire Services (SBFS) through Assembly Bill 1805 (Knox), which was signed into law by Governor Ronald Reagan. The Board is granted authority through Health and Safety Code sections 13140 through 13147.

MISSION (Section 13142 of the Health and Safety Code)

The Board acts in an advisory capacity to the State Fire Marshal in establishing minimum standards for the protection of life and property against fire and for the coordination of activities in the State Fire Marshal's Office with those of local governmental agencies. The Board, shall from time to time make full and complete studies, recommendations, and reports to the Governor and the Legislature for the purpose of recommending establishment of minimum standards with respect to all of the following:

- a. Physical requirements, education and training of fire protection personnel appointed to positions in regularly organized fire service agencies in this state, who are to be engaged in fire protection, including, but not limited to, fire suppression, fire prevention, arson investigation, and other allied fields.
- b. Fire apparatus, equipment, hose, tools, and related items.
- c. Basic minimum courses of training and education for fire protection personnel.

SCOPE OF ADVISORY ROLE (Sections 13142.6, 13142.8, 13143, 13143.1, 13143.2, 13143.6, 13145, 13146, 13146.2, 13146.3, 13146.4, and 13146.5 of the Health and Safety Code)

The State Board of Fire Services gives policy guidance and advice regarding:

- a. The establishment and validation of minimum standards for fire protection personnel and fire protection instructors at all career levels;
- b. The development of course curricula for arson, fire technology, and apprenticeship training for use in academies, colleges, and other education institutions;

- c. The development, validation, update, copyright, and maintenance of security over a complete series of promotional examinations based on the minimum standards established;
- d. The availability of examinations to other agencies or testing organizations;
- e. The promotion, sponsorship and administration of the California Firefighter Joint Apprenticeship Program (JAC) as the pre-employment recruitment, selection, and training system to be utilized for entry level firefighters;
- f. The establishment of advisory committees for the State Fire Marshal;
- g. The establishment of fees concerning fire service related education;
- h. The promotion, sponsorship and administration of the California Academy System;
- i. The preparation, adoption and submission of building standards for occupancies within the State Fire Marshal's scope of authority;
- j. The management of the California Fire Service Training and Education Program;
- k. The development of a model plan or system for use by fire departments where hazardous materials are involved;
- l. The administration of regulations concerning portable fire extinguishers.

And, under the direction of the Vice Chair, the State Board of Fire Services sits as the appeals board on applications of the State Fire Marshal's regulations (Title 19) by the State Fire Marshal or his/her salaried staff. Neither the State Fire Marshal nor any of the Board who has financial or other interest which would influence his/her decision on the particular issue may vote on the appeal.

MEMBERSHIP (Section 13140.5 of the Health and Safety Code)

The State Board of Fire Services is comprised of 17 representatives appointed by the Governor, serving for a term of 4 years. The composition is as such:

- The State Fire Marshal (Ex-officio, Chairperson)
- The Chief Deputy Director of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Ex-officio)
- The Director of Emergency Services (Ex-officio)
- The Chairperson of the California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Program (Ex-officio)
- One Representative of the Insurance Industry
- One Volunteer Fire Fighter
- Three Fire Chiefs
 - One representative from the California Fire Chiefs Association

- One representative from the Fire Districts Association of California
- One representative from the California Metropolitan Fire Chiefs
- Five Fire Services Labor Representatives
 - One representative from the California Labor Federation
 - One representative from California Professional Firefighters
 - One representative from the International Association of Fire Fighters
 - One representative from the California Department of Forestry Fire Fighters
 - One representative from the California State Fire Fighters Association
- One City Government Representative
- One Fire District Representative
- One County Government Representative

COMPENSATION (Section 13141 of the Health and Safety Code)

The Board shall receive no salary. Board members shall be paid actual and necessary expended related to activities of the Board.