

1-1 By: Harless (Senate Sponsor - Bettencourt) H.B. No. 3687
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 12, 2025;
1-3 May 13, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Local
1-4 Government; May 16, 2025, reported favorably by the following
1-5 vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0; May 16, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	Bettencourt	X		
1-9	Middleton	X		
1-10	Cook	X		
1-11	Gutierrez	X		
1-12	Nichols	X		
1-13	Paxton	X		
1-14	West	X		

1-15 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-16 AN ACT

1-17 relating to certification requirements for a fire marshal and any
1-18 related employee, officer, inspector, and investigator appointed
1-19 by certain counties and emergency services districts.

1-20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-21 SECTION 1. Subchapter F, Chapter 775, Health and Safety
1-22 Code, is amended by adding Section 775.1025 to read as follows:

1-23 Sec. 775.1025. CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR DISTRICTS
1-24 LOCATED IN CERTAIN COUNTIES. (a) This section applies only to a
1-25 district wholly located in a county with a population of 100,000 or
1-26 more.

1-27 (b) The fire marshal shall hold the following
1-28 certifications issued by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection:

1-29 (1) head of a prevention-only fire department
1-30 certification not later than 12 months after the date the marshal is
1-31 initially appointed;

1-32 (2) a fire marshal basic certification not later than
1-33 24 months after the date the marshal is initially appointed; and

1-34 (3) a fire protection personnel certification not
1-35 later than 12 months after the date the marshal is initially
1-36 appointed.

1-37 (c) If acting as a peace officer, the fire marshal and any
1-38 related officer, inspector, and investigator must hold a permanent
1-39 peace officer license issued under Chapter 1701, Occupations Code.

1-40 (d) If acting under fire marshal authority to conduct or
1-41 supervise arson investigations or fire inspections, the fire
1-42 marshal or the marshal's employees must hold certifications
1-43 required for fire inspection by the Texas Commission on Fire
1-44 Protection under Chapter 419, Government Code.

1-45 SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 352, Local Government
1-46 Code, is amended by adding Section 352.0125 to read as follows:

1-47 Sec. 352.0125. CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS IN CERTAIN
1-48 COUNTIES. (a) This section applies only to a county with a
1-49 population of 100,000 or more.

1-50 (b) A county fire marshal shall hold the following
1-51 certifications issued by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection:

1-52 (1) head of a prevention-only fire department
1-53 certification not later than 12 months after the date the marshal is
1-54 initially appointed;

1-55 (2) a fire marshal basic certification not later than
1-56 24 months after the date the marshal is initially appointed; and

1-57 (3) a fire protection personnel certification not
1-58 later than 12 months after the date the marshal is initially
1-59 appointed.

1-60 (c) If acting as a peace officer, a county fire marshal and
1-61 any related officer, inspector, and investigator must hold a

permanent peace officer license issued under Chapter 1701, Occupations Code.

(d) If acting under fire marshal authority to conduct or supervise arson investigations or fire inspections, a county fire marshal or the marshal's employees must hold certifications required for fire inspection by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection under Chapter 419, Government Code.

SECTION 3. Notwithstanding Sections 775.1025, Health and Safety Code, and 352.0125, Local Government Code, as added by this Act, a fire marshal for a county with a population of 100,000 or more or for an emergency services district wholly located in a county with a population of 100,000 or more initially appointed before the effective date of this Act must receive the following certifications:

(1) head of a suppression fire department certification issued by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection not later than 12 months after the effective date of this Act;

(2) head of a prevention-only fire department certification issued by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection not later than 12 months after the effective date of this Act;

(3) a fire marshal basic certification issued by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection not later than 24 months after the effective date of this Act;

(4) a fire protection personnel certification issued by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection not later than 12 months after the effective date of this Act; and

(5) if acting as a peace officer, a permanent peace officer license issued under Chapter 1701, Occupations Code.

SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

* * * * *