

SENATE SUBSTITUTE TO HB 699:

**AS PASSED SENATE**

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED**

**AN ACT**

1 To amend Code Section 25-4-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
 2 qualifications of firefighters generally, so as to authorize the waiver of certain educational  
 3 requirements; to amend Code Section 25-4-9 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
 4 relating to basic firefighter training courses and transfer of certification, so as to provide that  
 5 military firefighter training may be accepted as required basic training; to provide for related  
 6 matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Code Section 25-4-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to qualifications of  
 10 firefighters generally, is amended by revising paragraph (6) of subsection (a) as follows:

11 "(6) Possess or achieve within 12 months after employment a high school diploma or a  
 12 general education development equivalency, provided that the council may by rule or  
 13 regulation prescribe for the waiver of such requirement."

14 **SECTION 2.**

15 Code Section 25-4-9 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to basic firefighter  
 16 training courses and transfer of certification, is amended by revising subsection (a) as  
 17 follows:

18 "(a)(1) ~~Full-time~~, Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection,  
 19 full-time, part-time, and volunteer firefighters, including airport firefighters, shall  
 20 successfully complete a basic training course. The council shall determine the course  
 21 content, number of hours, and all other matters relative to basic firefighter training,  
 22 including airport rescue firefighter training. Upon satisfactory completion of such basic  
 23 training, a firefighter shall be issued a certificate of completion evidencing the same.  
 24 Each firefighter shall be required to successfully complete such basic training course  
 25 within 12 months after being employed or appointed as a firefighter or, in the case of

26 airport firefighters, within such time period as the council may prescribe by rule or  
27 regulation.

28 (2) Each firefighter who presents to the council satisfactory documentation, as  
29 determined by the council, of his or her training as a member of the United States armed  
30 forces, the Georgia National Guard, or the Georgia Air National Guard shall be issued a  
31 certificate of completion by the council."

32 **SECTION 3.**

33 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.