

## CHAPTER 97-19

### Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 443

An act relating to firesafety; amending s. 633.511, F.S.; providing for the State Fire Marshal rather than the Governor to appoint members to the Florida Fire Safety Board; amending s. 633.537, F.S.; revising continuing education requirements with respect to certificates issued by the State Fire Marshal to certain contractors; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Effective July 1, 1997, subsection (3) of section 633.511, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

633.511 Florida Fire Safety Board; membership.—

(3) ~~Within 30 days after the effective date of this act, the Governor shall appoint the members of the board.~~ The State Fire Marshal's term on the board, or that of his designated administrative employee, shall coincide with the State Fire Marshal's term of office. Of the other six members of the board, one member shall be appointed for a term of 1 year, one member for a term of 2 years, two members for terms of 3 years, and two members for terms of 4 years. All terms expire on June 30 of the last year of the term. Effective July 1, 1997, as the term of each member expires, the State Fire Marshal ~~Governor~~ shall appoint a member to fill the vacancy for a term of 4 years. The State Fire Marshal ~~Governor~~ may remove any appointed member for cause. A vacancy in the membership of the board for any cause shall be filled by appointment by the State Fire Marshal ~~Governor~~ for the balance of the unexpired term.

Section 2. Effective June 30, 1997, subsection (3) of section 633.537, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

633.537 Certificate; expiration; renewal; inactive certificate; continuing education.—

(3) Effective July 1, 1996, a certificate for the Contractor I, II, III, and IV classifications as defined in this chapter shall not be renewed unless the certificateholder produces documentation of at least 24 contact hours of continuing education in the fire protection discipline. Holders of Contractor V certificates are required to obtain 14 contact hours of continuing education, each year prior to renewal, at least 1 hour of which is in the fire protection discipline. Any continuing education hours approved pursuant to chapter 489 by the Construction Industry Licensing Board for underground utility and excavation contractors, or approved for any other licensees under that board which perform activities requiring licensure as a Contractor V, shall be considered as also approved to comply with Contractor V continuing education requirements. A Contractor V shall provide to the State Fire

Marshal evidence of approval of such coursework by the Construction Industry Licensing Board. Any continuing education hours approved by the department for a Contractor V certificateholder shall be considered as also approved to comply with continuing education requirements for underground utility and excavation contractors, or approved for any other licensees under that board which perform activities requiring licensure as a Contractor V. Such continuing education requirements under this section may include seminars and conferences if the program and subject thereof is acceptable to the State Fire Marshal. The contact hours of continuing education must be obtained within the licensure year, except that acceptable training and education including seminars and conferences received within 18 months prior to June 30, 1997, will be allowed during this first year of continuing education requirements.

Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Became a law without the Governor's approval April 22, 1997.

Filed in Office Secretary of State April 21, 1997.