

Senate File 451 - Introduced

SENATE FILE 451
BY DRISCOLL

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the duties of fire officials and reports of
2 fires and emergency responses.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. Section 100.2, Code 2025, is amended to read as
2 follows:

3 **100.2 Duties of fire officials.**

4 1. The chief of the fire department or the chief's designee
5 of every city or township in which a fire department is
6 established or the chief of the fire department or the chief's
7 designee responding to every township fire where there is a
8 contract for fire protection in effect shall investigate into
9 the cause, origin and circumstances of every fire occurring in
10 the city or township ~~by which property has been destroyed or~~
11 ~~damaged or which results in bodily injury to a person, and~~
12 ~~determine whether the fire was the result of natural causes,~~
13 negligence or design resulting in property damage, bodily injury,
14 or destruction. The investigation shall determine whether the
15 fire was caused by natural factors, negligence, or intentional
16 action.

17 2. The department of transportation shall provide
18 registration information to the chief of the fire department or
19 the chief's designee in the course of a required investigation
20 under this section if the fire official is a law enforcement
21 officer certified by the Iowa law enforcement academy.

22 3. All law enforcement agencies within the state are required
23 to authorize access to the national crime information center
24 database to the chief of the fire department or the chief's
25 designee in the course of a required investigation under this
26 section if the fire official is a law enforcement officer
27 certified by the Iowa law enforcement academy.

28 4. The state fire marshal may assist in the investigation
29 or may direct the investigation if the fire marshal finds it
30 necessary.

31 Sec. 2. Section 100.3, Code 2025, is amended to read as
32 follows:

33 **100.3 Reports of fires and emergency responses.**

34 When death, serious bodily injury, or property damage in
35 excess of two hundred thousand dollars has occurred as a result

1 of a fire, or if arson is suspected, the fire official required
2 by section 100.2 to make fire investigations, shall notify the
3 state fire marshal's division immediately. For all other fires
4 causing an estimated damage of fifty dollars or more or emergency
5 responses by the fire service, the fire official required by
6 section 100.2 to investigate shall file a report with the fire
7 marshal's division within ~~ten~~ seven days following the end of
8 the month regardless of whether the division participated in or
9 supervised the investigation. Upon written request, an extension
10 of up to fourteen days may be granted for compelling reasons.
11 The report shall indicate all fire incidents occurring ~~which~~ that
12 have an estimated damage of fifty dollars or more and state
13 for each incident the name of the owners and occupants of the
14 property at the time of the fire, the value of the property,
15 the estimated total loss to the property, the origin of the
16 fire as determined by investigation, and other facts, statistics,
17 and circumstances concerning the fire incident. The report on
18 each emergency response shall include the nature of the incident
19 and other facts, statistics and circumstances concerning the
20 emergency response.

21 EXPLANATION

22 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
23 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

24 This bill relates to the duties of fire officials and reports
25 of fires and emergency responses.

26 The bill provides that the chief of the fire department or
27 the chief's designee of every city or township in which a fire
28 department is established or every township where there is a
29 contract for fire protection in effect shall investigate into the
30 cause, origin, and circumstances of every fire occurring in the
31 city or township resulting in property damage, bodily injury, or
32 destruction. The investigation shall determine whether the fire
33 was caused by natural factors, negligence, or intentional action.

34 The bill provides that the department of transportation
35 shall provide registration information to the chief of the fire

1 department or the chief's designee in the course of a required
2 investigation if the fire official is a law enforcement officer
3 certified by the Iowa law enforcement academy. The bill requires
4 all law enforcement agencies within the state to authorize access
5 to the national crime information center database to the chief of
6 the fire department or the chief's designee in the course of a
7 required investigation if the fire official is a law enforcement
8 officer certified by the Iowa law enforcement academy.

9 The bill provides that for fires not involving death, serious
10 bodily injury, property damage in excess of \$200,000, or
11 suspected arson, but having an estimated damage of \$50 or more
12 or emergency responses by the fire service, the fire official
13 shall file a report with the fire marshal's division within seven
14 days following the end of the month regardless of whether the
15 division participated in or supervised the investigation. Upon
16 written request, an extension of up to 14 days may be granted for
17 compelling reasons. The report shall indicate all fire incidents
18 occurring that have an estimated damage of \$50 or more and state
19 for each incident the name of the owners and occupants of the
20 property at the time of the fire, the value of the property,
21 the estimated total loss to the property, the origin of the
22 fire as determined by investigation, and other facts, statistics,
23 and circumstances concerning the fire incident. The report on
24 each emergency response shall include the nature of the incident
25 and other facts, statistics, and circumstances concerning the
26 emergency response.