

HB 2326 -- DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY

SPONSOR: Walsh

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Budget by a vote of 27 to 1.

This bill amends various fund provisions within the Division of Fire Safety.

Currently, fees collected from certification testing and recertification testing for individuals who fall under the Division of Fire Safety are deposited into the General Revenue Fund. This bill changes it so those fees are deposited into the Fire Education Fund.

Additionally, funds in the Boiler and Pressure Vessels Safety Fund are currently appropriated for the expenses of the board. The bill specifies that those funds shall be appropriated for the enforcement and regulatory functions of the division. Similarly, funds in the Elevator Safety Fund are currently appropriated for the expense and function of the elevator safety and amusement ride safety boards. The bill specifies that those funds shall be appropriated for the enforcement and regulatory functions of the division.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill gives flexibility and allows the division to use accumulating balances in three of their funds for more training for firefighters.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Walsh.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say the administrative costs are being removed to allow more funds for training firefighters and will still need to be appropriated.

Testifying on the bill was Greg Carrell, Assistant State Fire Marshal.