

Assemblyman Kevin Jeffries AB 82 – Firefighter License Reform Cleanup Chapter 92, Statutes of 2011

PROBLEM ADDRESSED

Last year, Assemblyman Jeffries with Assemblyman Chesbro passed AB 1648 which reformed the licensing of fire equipment operators. AB 1648 reduced the cost and work load for both local fire departments and the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

The DMV had concerns that the language of AB 1648 would require firefighters with full commercial licenses to also return to the DMV for additional testing and verification to receive the firefighter endorsements. Requiring commercial licensed firefighters to obtain the additional firefighter endorsement would create unnecessary costs and conflicting requirements on the drivers, their fire departments and the DMV.

CHANGE MADE BY AB 82

AB 82 clarifies that those who already have, or intend to get, a full commercial class A or B license do not need to obtain a firefighter endorsement (unless required by the fire department). The DMV will recognize these drivers are already trained to operate the heavy equipment.

This bill will keep intact the firefighter endorsement option for those with a regular class C, restricted class A or noncommercial class B license; since these licenses will need an additional employer certification and testing to ensure the quality of our firefighter equipment operators.

AB 82 made no other changes to the process put in place by AB 1648.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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