

SENATE BILL NO. 192

INTRODUCED BY M. LANG

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT GENERALLY REVISING QUALIFICATIONS RELATED TO CITIZENSHIP; REVISING FIREFIGHTER QUALIFICATIONS; ALLOWING A LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENT TO BE EMPLOYED AS A FIREFIGHTER; ~~AND~~ AMENDING SECTION 7-33-4107, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 7-33-4107, MCA, is amended to read:

"7-33-4107. Qualifications of firefighters. The state of Montana determines that qualifications for the firefighting profession must recognize the rigorous physical demands placed on firefighters and the expectation of many years of emergency service. To qualify as a firefighter, an applicant:

- (1) must be a citizen or lawful permanent resident of the United States;
- (2) must be at least 18 years of age;
- (3) must be a high school graduate or have been issued a high school equivalency diploma by the superintendent of public instruction or by an appropriate issuing agency of another state or of the federal government;
- (4) must possess or be eligible for a valid Montana driver's license;
- (5) shall pass a physical examination by a qualified physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse, who is not the applicant's personal physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse, appointed by the employing authority to determine if the applicant is free from any mental or physical condition that might adversely affect the applicant's performance of the duties of a firefighter;
- (6) must be fingerprinted and a search must be made of the local, state, and national fingerprint files to disclose any criminal record; and
- (7) may not have been convicted of a crime for which the applicant could have been imprisoned in a federal or state penitentiary."

NEW SECTION. SECTION 2. EFFECTIVE DATE. [THIS ACT] IS EFFECTIVE ON PASSAGE AND APPROVAL.

- END -

