

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

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### Overview

Requires the DNR to maintain a trained force of firefighters. Provides that these firefighters are "public employees" for purposes of laws governing collective bargaining, notwithstanding exclusions in current law for certain emergency, part-time, and temporary employees.

- 1 Trained firefighters.** Requires the commissioner of natural resources to maintain a trained force of firefighters to handle the annual demand of the fire season. Provides that these persons are not "temporarily employed in emergencies." (Persons "temporarily employed in emergencies" generally are excluded from collective bargaining).
- 2 Public employees.** Provides that people in the trained force of DNR firefighters under section 1 are "public employees" for purposes of the laws governing public employee collective bargaining, notwithstanding exclusions in current law for certain emergency, part-time and temporary employees.

Provides that people in the trained force of DNR firefighters are able to organize and affiliate with any recognized labor organization.