

SUBJECT: Allowing the city of Corinth to create a fire and EMS district

COMMITTEE: Urban Affairs — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 8 ayes — Button, Shaheen, J. González, Goodwin, E. Johnson, Middleton, Patterson, Swanson

0 nays

WITNESSES: For — Michael Ross, City of Corinth; (*Registered, but did not testify:* Monty Wynn, Texas Municipal League)

Against — None

On — LeeAnn Bunselmeyer, City of Corinth

DIGEST: HB 747 would allow the governing body of a municipality with a population of at least 19,000 and less than 60,000 that contains a campus of North Central Texas College (Corinth) to propose the creation of a fire control, prevention, and emergency medical services district.

This bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2019.

SUPPORTERS SAY: HB 747 would allow the city of Corinth to propose the creation of a fire and emergency services district. Creation of such a district would have to be approved by local voters. If approved, creation of the district would enable the city to establish a dedicated funding mechanism for fire and emergency services.

Corinth's recent population growth has increased the city's cost for fire and emergency services. City officials would like to create a fire and emergency services district so they can permanently dedicate a portion of the sales tax to support these necessary services. The current code contains a set of population brackets that do not allow the city to propose

the establishment of such a district. By expanding these brackets to include Corinth, the bill would allow the city to establish a secure, dedicated source of funding for its fire and emergency services.

OPPONENTS
SAY:

No concerns identified.