

By Senator Garcia

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to seaport security; amending s.
311.12, F.S.; requiring seaports to maintain an onsite
fire station that is staffed and operational 24 hours
a day, 7 days a week; requiring fire stations to have
a certified hazardous materials response team with
specified capabilities; requiring seaports to maintain
a specified number of operational fireboats able to
respond to fires and hazardous materials incidents in
specified areas; requiring the Division of State Fire
Marshal, in consultation with the Florida Ports
Council, to adopt certain rules; providing fines and
penalties; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Present subsections (5) and (6) of section
311.12, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (6)
and (7), respectively, and a new subsection (5) is added to that
section, to read:

311.12 Seaport security.—

(5) FIRE SAFETY.—

(a) Each seaport subject to this section shall maintain an
onsite fire station under the authority of a fire department
recognized by the State Fire Marshal.

(b) A fire department station must be staffed, equipped,
and operational 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

(c) A fire station must have a certified hazardous
materials response team capable of immediate deployment to any

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incident on seaport property.

(d) Each seaport subject to this section shall maintain a minimum of two operational fireboats, equipped and staffed to respond to fires and hazardous materials incidents occurring on or adjacent to navigable waters of the seaport.

(e) The Division of State Fire Marshal, in consultation with the Florida Ports Council, shall adopt rules establishing minimum standards for all of the following:

1. Staffing levels and qualifications.

2. Equipment and apparatus requirements, including fireboats.

3. Training, including hazardous materials certification.

4. Mutual aid coordination with adjacent jurisdictions and regional response teams.

(f) A seaport's failure to comply with this subsection may result in fines imposed by the Department of Financial Services, ineligibility for state port funding, or suspension of port operations, as determined by the department.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.