

# HOUSE BILL No. 1424

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## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 36-8-17-7.5.

**Synopsis:** Law enforcement powers of fire investigators. Allows a fire investigator who is a member of a fire department that provides service to a first or second class city (city) to exercise police powers for the city if the city police chief and county sheriff receive written notification from the chief of the city fire department or the fire department providing service to the city. (Under current law, a fire investigator must be a member of the city fire department and must be authorized to exercise police powers in the city by the chiefs of the city police department and fire department.)

**Effective:** July 1, 2024.

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## Mayfield

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January 16, 2024, read first time and referred to Committee on Veterans Affairs and Public Safety.

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Second Regular Session of the 123rd General Assembly (2024)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2023 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

# HOUSE BILL No. 1424

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning local government.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

1 SECTION 1. IC 36-8-17-7.5, AS ADDED BY P.L.90-2017,  
2 SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE  
3 JULY 1, 2024]: Sec. 7.5. **(a) As used in this section, "city" means a**  
4 **first or second class city.**  
5 **(b) As used in this section, "fire investigator" means a fire**  
6 **investigator who serves a city as a member of:**  
7 **(1) the city fire department; or**  
8 **(2) a fire department that provides service to the city.**  
9 **(a) (c) As used in this section, "police powers" means the power to:**  
10 (1) make an arrest;  
11 (2) conduct a search or seizure of a person or property; or  
12 (3) carry a firearm.  
13 **(b) (d) A fire investigator of a first class or second class city may**  
14 **exercise police powers for a city if the fire investigator meets all of the**  
15 **following requirements:**  
16 (1) **The fire investigator has been authorized to exercise police**  
17 **powers by the:**



- 1 (A) police chief; and (B) fire chief; of the first class or second
- 2 class city. **The fire chief of the city fire department or the fire**
- 3 **department that provides service to the city has provided**
- 4 **written notification to:**
- 5 (A) the city police chief; and
- 6 (B) the sheriff of each county in which the city is located;
- 7 **that the fire investigator is authorized by the fire chief to**
- 8 **exercise police powers.**
- 9 (2) The fire investigator has successfully completed the pre-basic
- 10 training course established under IC 5-2-1-9(f).
- 11 (3) The fire investigator has successfully completed the minimum
- 12 basic training and educational requirements adopted by the law
- 13 enforcement training board under IC 5-2-1-9 as necessary for
- 14 employment as a law enforcement officer.

