
Local Government & Housing Committee

HB 2886

Brief Description: Requiring installation of fire alarms for hearing impaired persons.

Sponsors: Representatives Simpson, Wood, Cooper, Lovick, Dunshee, Santos, Conway, Chase, Lysen and Kenney.

Brief Summary of Bill
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Requires that dwelling units occupied by a hearing impaired person must be installed with smoke detection devices for hearing impaired persons.

Hearing Date: 2/5/02

Staff: Amy Wood (786-7127).

Background:

The State Fire Protection Law requires owners to install smoke detection devices inside all dwelling units that are occupied by persons other than the owner on and after December 31, 1981, or built or manufactured in Washington after December 31, 1980. Tenants are responsible for the maintenance of the smoke detection devices in the dwelling unit, including the replacement of batteries where required for proper operation. Failure of the owner or the tenant to comply with these provisions will result in a fine of not more than \$200.

The State Residential Landlord-Tenant Law requires the landlord to comply with city, county or state regulations. This includes installing smoke detection devices and ensuring that they operate properly when a tenant moves into the dwelling.

Summary of Bill:

The State Fire Protection Law requires that owners supply and install smoke detection devices for hearing impaired persons inside all dwelling units that are occupied by a hearing impaired person. The law defines "smoke detection device for hearing impaired persons" as an approved smoke alarm that, when activated by smoke or products of combustion, produces an audible and a visual warning. The visual warning shall produce a light signal

sufficient to warn a hearing impaired person of the presence of fire or smoke.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not Requested.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.