
SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2575

State of Washington

60th Legislature

2008 Regular Session

By House Local Government (originally sponsored by Representatives Simpson, Ormsby, and Wood)

READ FIRST TIME 02/05/08.

1 AN ACT Relating to fire sprinkler systems in private residences;
2 and creating new sections.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature recognizes that fire
5 sprinkler systems in private residences can prevent catastrophic loses
6 of life and property, but that financial, technical, and other issues
7 often discourage property owners from installing these protective
8 systems.

9 In response to these recognized benefits and circumstances, the
10 legislature intends the state building code council to convene a
11 technical advisory group to examine issues, barriers, and incentives
12 pertaining to private residential fire sprinkler systems. The
13 legislature further intends the council to develop recommendations for
14 eradicating barriers that prevent the voluntary installation of
15 sprinkler systems in private residences and to report the findings of
16 the advisory group. The legislature expects the efforts of the council
17 and the advisory group to prove beneficial in developing new and
18 successful approaches to protecting the lives and property of

1 Washingtonians by promoting the installation of sprinkler systems in
2 private residences.

3 The legislature does not intend to establish an actual or implied
4 mandate for the installation of private residential fire sprinkler
5 systems, nor does the legislature intend to diminish or otherwise
6 affect the regulatory authority of local governments.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The state building code council must
8 convene a technical advisory group on private residential fire
9 sprinkler systems. The advisory group must research and review
10 policies and procedures pertaining to private residential fire
11 sprinkler systems, including technical, statutory, and liability
12 issues, that promote or discourage the installation of sprinkler
13 systems in private residences.

14 (2)(a) The advisory group must consist of representatives from:

- 15 (i) A city association;
- 16 (ii) A county association;
- 17 (iii) A building officials association;
- 18 (iv) A special purpose water-sewer district association;
- 19 (v) A public utility district association;
- 20 (vi) A mutual water company;
- 21 (vii) The department of health;
- 22 (viii) The department of ecology; and
- 23 (ix) The insurance industry.

24 (b) The advisory group must also consist of:

- 25 (i) The state director of fire protection or his or her designee;
- 26 (ii) A local fire marshal;
- 27 (iii) A licensed residential sprinkler fitter;
- 28 (iv) A licensed residential fire sprinkler contractor;
- 29 (v) An architect;
- 30 (vi) A residential builder; and
- 31 (vii) Other representatives deemed necessary by the council to

32 fulfill the requirements of this section.

33 (3) The state building code council must: (a) Develop
34 recommendations for eradicating barriers that prevent the voluntary
35 installation of sprinkler systems in private residences.
36 Recommendations under this subsection (3) must consider the work of the

1 advisory group; and (b) report the findings of the advisory group to
2 the appropriate committees of the house of representatives and the
3 senate by January 15, 2009.

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