
SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6451

State of Washington 61st Legislature 2010 Regular Session

By Senate Government Operations & Elections (originally sponsored by Senators Kauffman and Kohl-Welles)

READ FIRST TIME 02/01/10.

1 AN ACT Relating to installation of residential fire sprinkler
2 systems; amending RCW 18.160.050 and 82.02.100; adding a new section to
3 chapter 70.119A RCW; and creating a new section.

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

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

10 It is the intent of the legislature to eradicate barriers that
11 prevent the voluntary installation of sprinkler systems in private
12 residences by promoting education regarding the effectiveness of
13 residential fire sprinklers, and by providing financial and regulatory
14 incentives to homeowners, builders, and water purveyors for voluntarily
15 installing the systems.

16 **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.160.050 and 2008 c 155 s 2 are each amended to read
17 as follows:

18 (1)(a) All certificate of competency holders that desire to

1 continue in the fire protection sprinkler business shall annually,
2 prior to January 1, secure from the state director of fire protection
3 a renewal certificate of competency upon payment of the fee as
4 prescribed by the state director of fire protection. Application for
5 renewal shall be upon a form prescribed by the state director of fire
6 protection and the certificate holder shall furnish the information
7 required by the director.

8 (b) Failure of any certificate of competency holder to secure his
9 or her renewal certificate of competency within sixty days after the
10 due date shall constitute sufficient cause for the state director of
11 fire protection to suspend the certificate of competency.

12 (c) The state director of fire protection may, upon the receipt of
13 payment of all delinquent fees including a late charge, restore a
14 certificate of competency that has been suspended for failure to pay
15 the renewal fee.

16 (d) A certificate of competency holder may voluntarily surrender
17 his or her certificate of competency to the state director of fire
18 protection and be relieved of the annual renewal fee. After
19 surrendering the certificate of competency, he or she shall not be
20 known as a certificate of competency holder and shall desist from the
21 practice thereof. Within two years from the time of surrender of the
22 certificate of competency, he or she may again qualify for a
23 certificate of competency, without examination, by the payment of the
24 required fee. If two or more years have elapsed, he or she shall
25 return to the status of a new applicant.

26 (2)(a) All licensed fire protection sprinkler system contractors
27 desiring to continue to be licensed shall annually, prior to January 1,
28 secure from the state director of fire protection a renewal license
29 upon payment of the fee as prescribed by the state director of fire
30 protection. Application for renewal shall be upon a form prescribed by
31 the state director of fire protection and the license holder shall
32 furnish the information required by the director.

33 (b) Failure of any license holder to secure his or her renewal
34 license within sixty days after the due date shall constitute
35 sufficient cause for the state director of fire protection to suspend
36 the license.

37 (c) The state director of fire protection may, upon the receipt of

1 payment of all delinquent fees including a late charge, restore a
2 license that has been suspended for failure to pay the renewal fee.

3 (3) The initial certificate of competency or license fee shall be
4 prorated based upon the portion of the year such certificate of
5 competency or license is in effect, prior to renewal on January 1.

6 (4) The fire protection contractor license fund is created in the
7 custody of the state treasurer. All receipts from license and
8 certificate fees and charges or from the money generated by the rules
9 and regulations promulgated under this chapter shall be deposited into
10 the fund. Expenditures from the fund may be used only for purposes
11 authorized under this chapter and standards for fire protection and its
12 enforcement, with respect to all hospitals as required by RCW
13 70.41.080(~~(, and)~~); for providing assistance in identifying fire
14 sprinkler system components that have been subject to either a recall
15 or voluntary replacement program by a manufacturer of fire sprinkler
16 products, a nationally recognized testing laboratory, or the federal
17 consumer product safety commission; and for use in developing and
18 publishing educational materials related to the effectiveness of
19 residential fire sprinklers. Assistance shall include, but is not
20 limited to, aiding in the identification of recalled components,
21 information sharing strategies aimed at ensuring the consumer is made
22 aware of recalls and voluntary replacement programs, and providing
23 training and assistance to local fire authorities, the fire sprinkler
24 industry, and the public. Only the state director of fire protection
25 or the director's designee may authorize expenditures from the fund.
26 The fund is subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW,
27 but no appropriation is required for expenditures.

28 **Sec. 3.** RCW 82.02.100 and 1992 c 219 s 2 are each amended to read
29 as follows:

30 (1) A person required to pay a fee pursuant to RCW 43.21C.060 for
31 system improvements shall not be required to pay an impact fee under
32 RCW 82.02.050 through 82.02.090 for those same system improvements.

33 (2) A person installing a residential fire sprinkler system in a
34 single-family home shall not be required to pay the fire operations
35 portion of the impact fee. The exempted fire operations impact fee
36 shall not include the proportionate share related to the delivery of
37 emergency medical services.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 70.119A
2 RCW to read as follows:

3 A public water system is not liable for damages resulting from
4 shutting off water to a residential home with an installed fire
5 sprinkler system if the shut off is due to: (1) Routine maintenance;
6 (2) nonpayment by the customer; or (3) water system emergencies.

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