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HOUSE BILL 2053

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State of Washington

63rd Legislature

2013 Regular Session

By Representative Takko

Read first time 04/19/13. Referred to Committee on Local Government.

1 AN ACT Relating to smoke detection devices; and amending RCW  
2 43.44.110.

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

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 43.44.110 and 1995 c 369 s 34 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6 (1) Smoke detection devices shall be installed inside all dwelling  
7 units:

8 (a) Occupied by persons other than the owner on and after December  
9 31, 1981; or

10 (b) Built or manufactured in this state after December 31, 1980.

11 (2) The smoke detection devices shall be designed, manufactured,  
12 and installed inside dwelling units in conformance with:

13 (a) Nationally accepted standards; and

14 (b) As provided by the administrative procedure act, chapter 34.05  
15 RCW, rules and regulations promulgated by the chief of the Washington  
16 state patrol, through the director of fire protection.

17 (3) Installation of smoke detection devices shall be the  
18 responsibility of the owner. Maintenance of smoke detection devices,  
19 including the replacement of batteries where required for the proper

1 operation of the smoke detection device, shall be the responsibility of  
2 the tenant, who shall maintain the device as specified by the  
3 manufacturer. At the time of a vacancy, the owner shall insure that  
4 the smoke detection device is operational prior to the reoccupancy of  
5 the dwelling unit.

6 (4) Any owner or tenant failing to comply with this section shall  
7 be punished by a fine of not more than two hundred dollars.

8 (5) After January 1, 2014, when installing a new smoke detection  
9 device or replacing an existing smoke detection device, an owner or  
10 tenant must install a tamper-resistant, ten-year lithium battery smoke  
11 detection device. A landlord is not required to install a tamper-  
12 resistant, ten-year lithium battery smoke detection device as required  
13 by this subsection if:

14 (a) The dwelling unit is equipped with a hardwired smoke detection  
15 device with a battery backup; or

16 (b) The dwelling unit is equipped with a smoke detection device  
17 combined with a carbon monoxide alarm.

18 (6) For the purposes of this section:

19 (a) "Dwelling unit" means a single unit providing complete,  
20 independent living facilities for one or more persons including  
21 permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking, and  
22 sanitation; and

23 (b) "Smoke detection device" means an assembly incorporating in one  
24 unit a device which detects visible or invisible particles of  
25 combustion, the control equipment, and the alarm-sounding device,  
26 operated from a power supply either in the unit or obtained at the  
27 point of installation.

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