



SENATE OF PENNSYLVANIA BILL SUMMARY

Senate Bill 439 Printer's No. 430

Prime Sponsor: Fontana
Committee: Health and Human Services

SYNOPSIS:

Enacts the Carbon Monoxide Alarm Standards in Child Care Facilities Act (the "Act"). The Act would require the installation, maintenance, repair or replacement of carbon monoxide detectors in child care facilities that use fossil fuel-burning heaters or appliances, fireplaces or are attached to garages.

SUMMARY:

Definitions

Among other definitions, the Act defines the following terms:

"Approved carbon monoxide alarm" is defined as:

1. A single or multiple station carbon monoxide alarm, or a carbon monoxide detector, all meeting certain specified requirements.
2. A device combined with a smoke alarm or smoke detector if the device meets specified requirements and emits an alarm that clearly differentiates between the presence of smoke and the presence of carbon monoxide.
3. A carbon monoxide detection system that is installed and maintained in accordance with certain specified standards.

"Child care facility" is defined as a boarding home for children or a child day care center both as defined in the Human Services Code, and a nursery school that is licensed and regulated by the Commonwealth.

"Installed" is defined as hardwired, directly plugged into an outlet that is without a switch, or, if battery powered, attached in accordance with NFPA 720.

Administration

Nothing in the Act is intended to modify the authority of the Department of Labor & Industry under the Pennsylvania Construction Code Act.

Requirements

Each child care facility which uses a fossil-fuel-burning heater, appliance, fireplace or which is attached to a garage must have an operational carbon monoxide alarm in the vicinity of the fossil-fuel-burning heater or fireplace and in every unit on the same floor as the fossil-fuel-burning heater or appliance, within 18 months of the effective date.

The owner of the child care facility is responsible for ongoing maintenance, repair and replacement.

Enforcement

Willful failure to install or maintain is a summary offense is punishable by a fine of up to \$50.

Effective Date: Immediately

BILL HISTORY:

Referred to HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, Feb. 27, 2017

Prepared by: Cortez 10/12/2017