
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO FIRE PROTECTION.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that automatic fire
2 sprinkler systems have a proven record of significantly reducing
3 property damage, injuries, and deaths in residential fires.
4 Installing both smoke alarms and sprinklers in the home reduces
5 the risk of fire-related deaths by eighty-two per cent.
6 Typically, only the sprinkler head closest to the fire will
7 activate, and eighty-five per cent of fires are contained by the
8 operation of just one sprinkler.

9 The legislature also finds that new dwellings are
10 especially susceptible to residential fires. The engineered
11 lumber used as composite joists or beams in newly constructed
12 homes burns and collapses much more quickly than traditional
13 wood. Modern furnishings also reach higher temperatures much
14 more quickly than antique furnishings. A home without
15 sprinklers places not only the occupants but also fire fighters
16 in extreme danger.



1 final pricing for construction of a new dwelling, the builder
2 shall provide to the buyer a copy of written materials prepared
3 and adopted by the state fire council that detail the benefits
4 of residential fire sprinkler systems. The builder shall also
5 provide a written estimate of the costs associated with
6 installing and maintaining a residential fire sprinkler system.
7 The buyer shall acknowledge receipt of the materials in writing
8 on a form provided by the state fire council and filed with the
9 executive director of the office of consumer protection. Upon
10 request of the buyer, the builder shall install a residential
11 fire sprinkler system or other requested fire suppression system
12 at the buyer's expense.

13 § -3 Remedies and penalties. Upon a finding that any
14 person has wilfully violated this chapter, the person shall be
15 subject for a first offense to a civil penalty of no less than
16 \$75 or more than \$150 and, for each subsequent offense, a civil
17 penalty of no less than \$100 or more than \$250. For the
18 purposes of this chapter, a wilful violation occurs when the
19 person committing the violation knew or should have known that
20 the conduct was of the nature prohibited by this chapter.



1 § -4 Residential fire sprinkler cost estimate form. (a)

2 To effectuate this chapter, the state fire council, in
3 conjunction with assistance from the executive director of the
4 office of consumer protection, shall research and develop a
5 standard form or forms, similar to those used in other
6 jurisdictions, to be used to confirm the buyer's receipt of the
7 written materials required by section -2. The form or forms
8 may be amended from time to time by the state fire council.

9 (b) The form shall include:

10 (1) An acknowledgement that the buyer received a copy of
11 written materials prepared and adopted by the state
12 fire council that detail the benefits of residential
13 fire sprinkler systems;

14 (2) The cost estimate provided by the builder for
15 installing and maintaining a residential fire
16 sprinkler system; and

17 (3) An indication of whether the buyer accepted or
18 rejected the installation of a residential fire
19 sprinkler system or other fire suppression system."

20 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on January 2, 2050.



Report Title:

State Fire Council Package; Fire Protection; Mandatory Disclosure; DCCA; Office of Consumer Protection

Description:

Requires the builders of new dwellings to provide buyers with information on the benefits and costs associated with installing and maintaining a residential fire sprinkler system. Requires the State Fire Council and the Executive Director of the Office of Consumer Protection to develop a standard form for this purpose. Effective 1/2/2050. (SD1)

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