
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1277 Session of
2014

INTRODUCED BY FONTANA, WASHINGTON, ARGALL, COSTA, KASUNIC,
SOLOBAY, TARTAGLIONE, SCHWANK AND HUGHES, MARCH 14, 2014

REFERRED TO EDUCATION, MARCH 14, 2014

AN ACT

1 Providing standards for carbon monoxide alarms in schools; and
2 imposing penalties.

3 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
4 hereby enacts as follows:

5 Section 1. Short title.

6 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Carbon
7 Monoxide Alarm Standards in Schools Act.

8 Section 2. Definitions.

9 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
10 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
11 context clearly indicates otherwise:

12 "Approved carbon monoxide alarm." The term includes:

13 (1) A single or multiple station carbon monoxide alarm
14 listed as complying with the Approved American National
15 Standard for Single and Multiple Station Carbon Monoxide
16 Alarms (ANSI/UL2034) or a carbon monoxide detector listed as
17 complying with the Approved American National Standard for
18 Gas and Vapor Detectors and Sensors (ANSI/UL2075) installed

1 in accordance with this act.

2 (2) A device that may be combined with a smoke alarm or
3 smoke detector if the combined smoke alarm or detector meets
4 all of the following:

5 (i) Complies with either of the following:

6 (A) The Approved American National Standard for
7 Single and Multiple Station Carbon Monoxide Alarms
8 (ANSI/UL2034) for carbon monoxide alarms and the
9 Approved American National Standard for Single and
10 Multiple Station Smoke Alarms (ANSI/UL217) for smoke
11 alarms.

12 (B) The Approved American National Standard for
13 Gas and Vapor Detectors and Sensors (ANSI/UL2075) for
14 carbon monoxide detectors and the Approved American
15 National Standard for Safety for Smoke Detectors for
16 Fire Alarm Systems (ANSI/UL268) for smoke detectors.

17 (ii) Emits an alarm in a manner that clearly
18 differentiates between detecting the presence of carbon
19 monoxide and the presence of smoke.

20 (3) A carbon monoxide detection system that includes
21 carbon monoxide detectors and audible notification appliances
22 that are installed and maintained in accordance with the
23 National Fire Alarm and Signaling Code (NFPA 72) and the
24 Standard for the Installation of Carbon Monoxide (CO)
25 Detection and Warning Equipment (NFPA 720) and are in
26 compliance with the Approved American National Standard for
27 Gas and Vapor Detectors and Sensors (ANSI/UL2075).

28 "Classroom." A room located in a public school or a
29 nonpublic school where one or more students receive instruction.

30 "Fossil fuel." Coal, kerosene, oil, wood, fuel gases and

1 other petroleum or hydrocarbon products which emit carbon
2 monoxide as a by-product of combustion.

3 "Installed." A carbon monoxide alarm that is hardwired into
4 the electrical wiring, directly plugged into an electrical
5 outlet without a switch, other than a circuit breaker, or, if
6 the alarm is battery-powered, attached to the wall or ceiling of
7 a school or classroom, in accordance with the Standard for the
8 Installation of Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detection and Warning
9 Equipment (NFPA) 720.

10 "Nonpublic school." Any school, other than a public school,
11 in which a resident of this Commonwealth may legally fulfill the
12 compulsory attendance requirements of the act of March 10, 1949
13 (P.L.30, No.14), known as the Public School Code of 1949, and
14 which meets the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act
15 of 1964 (Public Law 88-352, 78 Stat. 241).

16 "Operational." Working and in service.

17 "Public school." Any of the following:

18 (1) A school of a school district.

19 (2) A charter school.

20 (3) A regional charter school.

21 (4) A cyber charter school, that provides educational
22 instruction by any means at one or more centrally located
23 facilities where students attend the instruction.

24 "School." Any public school or nonpublic school.

25 Section 3. Administration.

26 Nothing in this act is intended to modify the authority and
27 responsibilities of the Department of Labor and Industry under
28 the act of November 10, 1999 (P.L.491, No.45), known as the
29 Pennsylvania Construction Code Act.

30 Section 4. Carbon monoxide alarm requirements.

1 (a) General rule.--Each school, which uses a fossil fuel-
2 burning heater or appliance or has an attached garage, must have
3 an operational, centrally located and approved carbon monoxide
4 alarm installed in the vicinity of every classroom that is
5 located on the same story as the fossil fuel-burning heater or
6 appliance or attached garage within 18 months of the effective
7 date of this section.

8 (b) Maintenance, repair or replacement.--The governing body
9 of a school is responsible for providing for the maintenance,
10 repair or replacement of an approved carbon monoxide alarm or
11 the care and replacement of batteries.

12 Section 5. Enforcement.

13 Willful failure to install or maintain in operating condition
14 any approved carbon monoxide alarm required by this act is a
15 summary offense punishable by a fine of up to \$50.

16 Section 6. Effective date.

17 This act shall take effect immediately.