

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 935 Session of 2019

INTRODUCED BY LAUGHLIN, KILLION, ARGALL, YAW, DiSANTO, BOSCOLA, J. WARD, PITTMAN, K. WARD, VOGEL, SCARNATI, BROOKS, REGAN, BARTOLOTTA, AUMENT AND L. WILLIAMS, NOVEMBER 12, 2019

SENATOR BARTOLOTTA, LABOR AND INDUSTRY, AS AMENDED, FEBRUARY 5, 2020

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of April 27, 1927 (P.L.465, No.299), entitled
2 "An act to provide for the safety of persons employed,
3 housed, or assembled in certain buildings and structures by
4 requiring certain construction and ways of egress, equipment,
5 and maintenance; providing for the licensing of
6 projectionists, except in cities of the first class and
7 second class; requiring the submission of plans for
8 examination and approval; providing for the promulgation of
9 rules and regulations for the enforcement of this act;
10 providing for the enforcement of this act by the Department
11 of Labor and Industry, the Department of Health, boards of
12 school directors and, in certain cases, by the chiefs of fire
13 departments in cities of the third class; providing penalties
14 for violations of the provisions of this act; and repealing
15 certain acts," further providing for standards for Class VI
16 buildings.

17 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
18 hereby enacts as follows:

19 Section 1. Section 3.6(f)(1)(i), (f.1) and (g) of the act of
20 April 27, 1927 (P.L.465, No.299), referred to as the Fire and
21 Panic Act, are amended to read:

22 Section 3.6. Standards for Class VI Buildings.--

23 (f) (1) (i) As to family child [day-care] care homes, a
24 facility [registered] LICENSED by the Department of [Public

<--

1 ~~Welfare]~~ Human Services as of ~~[April 4, 1992,]~~ THE EFFECTIVE <--
2 DATE OF THIS SECTION, shall be permitted ~~[one full registration~~ <--
3 ~~period of twenty-four (24) months beyond]~~ 12 MONTHS FROM THE <--
4 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SECTION, OR UNTIL the expiration of ~~[the~~ <--
5 ~~current certificate of registration]~~ THEIR CURRENT LICENSE, <--
6 WHICHEVER IS LONGER, to comply with the requirements of this
7 section.

8 (f.1) (1) The smoke detection ~~[devises]~~ devices required
9 under this section ~~[need not]~~ shall be interconnected ~~[or~~ <--
10 ~~electronically connected]~~ VIA HARDWARE, BLUETOOTH CONNECTIVITY <--
11 OR ANY OTHER MEANS THAT ALLOW FOR COMMUNICATION BETWEEN DEVICES
12 for family child ~~[day-care]~~ care homes. For the purposes of this
13 act, ~~[noninterconnected]~~ BATTERY OPERATED, INTERCONNECTED smoke <--
14 detection ~~[devises]~~ ~~devices~~ shall be deemed acceptable where:] <--
15 DEVICES MUST MEET THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

16 (i) each ~~[devise]~~ ~~device~~ is an enclosed nonreplacable battery <--
17 smoke detector unit which meets applicable UL standards and has
18 ~~a minimum ten-year limited warranty]~~ DEVICE SHALL BE POWERED BY <--
19 A NONREPLACEABLE LITHIUM BATTERY LISTED BY UNDERWRITERS
20 LABORATORIES THAT IS WARRANTED FOR TEN (10) YEARS commencing
21 with the date of purchase; and

22 (ii) the activation of each detector results in an alarm that
23 is audible to persons in the indoor child-care space with all
24 intervening doors closed.

25 (2) Family child ~~[day-care]~~ care home operators shall
26 maintain, in their fire drill logs, proof of purchase, including
27 the date of purchase of the smoke detector.

28 (3) A family child care home shall:

29 (i) Have a smoke detector on each floor and in the basement.

30 ~~The smoke detectors on each floor and in the basement of the~~ <--

1 ~~family child care home shall be interconnected via hardwire,~~
2 ~~Bluetooth connectivity or any other means that allows for~~
3 ~~communications between the devices. The smoke detectors may be~~
4 ~~powered by a nonreplaceable lithium battery listed by~~
5 ~~Underwriters Laboratories that is warranted for ten years and~~
6 ~~should sound an alarm when activated that is audible to persons~~
7 ~~in the facility's indoor child care space with all intervening~~
8 ~~doors closed. Where this type of detector is utilized, the~~
9 ~~facility owner of this detector shall keep the proof and date of~~
10 ~~purchase of the detector in the facility's fire drill logs.~~

11 (ii) Have a portable fire extinguisher rated for class B
12 fires in the kitchen and other cooking areas.

13 (iii) Meet the exiting requirements for an R-3 occupancy and
14 licensure under 55 Pa. Code Ch. 3290 (relating to family child
15 day care homes).

16 (g) As used in this section, the following words and phrases
17 shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection:

18 "Family child [day-care] care home" means a home other than
19 the child's own home in which child [day] care is provided at <--
20 any one time to four (4), five (5) or six (6) children unrelated
21 to the operator.

22 ["Group child day-care home" means a home other than a
23 child's own home in which child day care is provided at any one
24 time for more than six (6) but fewer than thirteen (13) children
25 who are unrelated to the operator.]

26 Section 2. This act shall take effect in ~~120~~ 60 days. <--