

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL
No. 1900 Session of
1977

INTRODUCED BY PETRARCA, LIVENGOD, KOLTER, LETTERMAN AND
O'CONNELL, NOVEMBER 22, 1977

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND COMMERCE,
NOVEMBER 22, 1977

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of April 27, 1927 (P.L.465, No.299), entitled,
2 as amended, "An act to provide for the safety of persons
3 employed, housed, or assembled in certain buildings and
4 structures not in cities of the first class, second class,
5 and second class A, by requiring certain construction and
6 ways of egress, equipment, and maintenance; providing for the
7 licensing of projectionists, except in cities of the first
8 class and second class; requiring the submission of plans for
9 examination and approval; providing for the promulgation of
10 rules and regulations for the enforcement of this act;
11 providing for the enforcement of this act by the Department
12 of Labor and Industry and, in certain cases, by the chiefs of
13 fire departments in cities of the third class; providing
14 penalties for violations of the provisions of this act; and
15 repealing certain acts," mandating smoke detectors in public
16 buildings.

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

19 Section 1. The act of April 27 1927 (P.L.465, No.299),
20 referred to as the Fire and Panic Act, is amended by adding a
21 section to read:

22 Section 3.1. Smoke Detectors in Public Buildings.--(a) All
23 public buildings which have more than three stories shall have
24 at least one smoke detector of a type approved by the department

1 on each floor. The approved smoke detectors shall be installed
2 in such places and in such manner as the department shall
3 require by regulation.

4 (b) Public buildings as used in this section shall mean all
5 structures owned, rented or leased by the Commonwealth or by any
6 other governmental unit or agency and shall also include any
7 other structure constructed, reconstructed or maintained with
8 public funds.

9 (c) Notwithstanding section 15 of this act to the contrary,
10 this section shall be applicable in every municipality in the
11 Commonwealth.

12 (d) The provisions of this section shall apply to all public
13 buildings whether previously constructed, under construction or
14 existing. Those structures previously constructed and occupied
15 on the effective date of this amendatory act shall have one
16 hundred twenty (120) days to comply with the provisions of this
17 section.

18 (e) Every municipality which has building codes or building
19 ordinances shall incorporate the provisions of this section
20 therein.

21 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.