
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 258 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY FONTANA, KITCHEN, SCHWANK, HUGHES, SMITH, COSTA,
TARTAGLIONE AND BREWSTER, JANUARY 15, 2015

REFERRED TO PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE, JANUARY 15, 2015

AN ACT

1 Providing standards for carbon monoxide alarms in dependent care
2 facilities; and 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 Dependent Care Facilities 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 "Dependent care facility." Any of the following:

29 (1) A home that provides domiciliary care as defined in
30 section 2202-A of the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175),

1 known as The Administrative Code of 1929.

2 (2) A personal care home as defined in section 1001 of
3 the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Public
4 Welfare Code.

5 (3) A long-term care nursing facility as defined in
6 section 802.1 of the act of July 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48),
7 known as the Health Care Facilities Act.

8 (4) An older adult daily living center as defined in
9 section 2 of the act of July 11, 1990 (P.L.499, No.118),
10 known as the Older Adult Daily Living Centers Licensing Act.

11 (5) An assisted living residence as defined in section
12 1001 of the Public Welfare Code.

13 "Fossil fuel." Coal, kerosene, oil, wood, fuel gases and
14 other petroleum or hydrocarbon products which emit carbon
15 monoxide as a by-product of combustion.

16 "Installed." A carbon monoxide alarm that is hardwired into
17 the electrical wiring, directly plugged into an electrical
18 outlet without a switch, other than a circuit breaker, or, if
19 the alarm is battery-powered, attached to the wall or ceiling of
20 a unit of a dependent care facility, in accordance with the
21 Standard for the Installation of Carbon Monoxide (CO) Detection
22 and Warning Equipment (NFPA 720).

23 "Operational." Working and in service.

24 "Unit." A room or suite of two or more rooms that is
25 occupied as a residence, intended or designed to be occupied as
26 a residence or is occupied by a resident of a dependent care
27 facility.

28 Section 3. Administration.

29 Nothing in this act is intended to modify the authority and
30 responsibilities of the Department of Labor and Industry under

1 the act of November 10, 1999 (P.L.491, No.45), known as the
2 Pennsylvania Construction Code Act.

3 Section 4. Carbon monoxide alarm requirements.

4 (a) Dependent care facilities.--Each dependent care
5 facility, which uses a fossil fuel-burning heater or appliance,
6 or has an attached garage, must have an operational, centrally
7 located and approved carbon monoxide alarm installed in the
8 vicinity of the fossil fuel-burning heater or fireplace and in
9 every unit that is located on the same story as the fossil fuel-
10 burning heater or appliance within 18 months of the effective
11 date of this section.

12 (b) Maintenance, repair or replacement.--The owner of a
13 dependent care facility is responsible for providing for the
14 maintenance, repair or replacement of an approved carbon
15 monoxide alarm or the care and replacement of batteries.

16 Section 5. Enforcement.

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

20 Section 6. Effective date.

21 This act shall take effect immediately.