

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 AND AUMENT, NOVEMBER 12, 2019

REFERRED TO LABOR AND INDUSTRY, NOVEMBER 12, 2019

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 by the Department of [Public Welfare] Human

1 Services as of April 4, 1992, shall be permitted one full
2 registration period of twenty-four (24) months beyond the
3 expiration of the current certificate of registration to comply
4 with the requirements of this section.

5 (f.1) (1) The smoke detection [~~devises~~] devices required
6 under this section [~~need not~~] shall be interconnected or
7 electronically connected for family child [~~day-care~~] care homes.
8 For the purposes of this act, [~~noninterconnected~~] smoke
9 detection [~~devises~~] devices shall be deemed acceptable where:

10 (i) each [~~devise~~] device is an enclosed nonreplacable battery
11 smoke detector unit which meets applicable UL standards and has
12 a minimum ten-year limited warranty commencing with the date of
13 purchase; and

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

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

20 (3) A family child care home shall:

21 (i) Have a smoke detector on each floor and in the basement.
22 The smoke detectors on each floor and in the basement of the
23 family child care home shall be interconnected via hardwire,
24 Bluetooth connectivity or any other means that allows for
25 communications between the devices. The smoke detectors may be
26 powered by a nonreplaceable lithium battery listed by
27 Underwriters Laboratories that is warranted for ten years and
28 should sound an alarm when activated that is audible to persons
29 in the facility's indoor child care space with all intervening
30 doors closed. Where this type of detector is utilized, the

1 facility owner of this detector shall keep the proof and date of
2 purchase of the detector in the facility's fire drill logs.

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

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

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

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

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

18 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 120 days.