



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 447

January Session, 2025

Senate Bill No. 1490

Senate, April 2, 2025

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through SEN. GASTON of the 23rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE SALE OF BATTERY-POWERED SMOKE DETECTORS IN THE STATE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) (1) Except as provided in
2 subsection (b) of this section, on and after October 1, 2025, no person
3 shall distribute, sell or offer for sale any smoke detection and warning
4 equipment that is powered solely by a battery unless such battery is
5 nonreplaceable, nonremovable and capable of powering the equipment
6 for not less than ten years.

7 (2) The provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection shall not apply
8 to any smoke detection and warning equipment that is powered by the
9 electrical system of a building, fire alarm systems with smoke detection
10 and warning equipment, fire alarm devices that connect to a panel, or
11 devices that use a low-power radio frequency wireless communication
12 signal.

13 (b) A person may sell smoke detection and warning equipment that

14 does not meet the requirements of subsection (a) of this section on or
15 after October 1, 2025, if such person (1) possesses such equipment on
16 October 1, 2025, or (2) has placed an order for such equipment prior to
17 October 1, 2025.

18 (c) Any person who violates the provisions of this section shall be
19 fined not more than one hundred dollars for a first violation and not
20 more than five hundred dollars for a subsequent violation.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section

PS *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 26 \$	FY 27 \$
Resources of the General Fund	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	Minimal	Minimal

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill, which prohibits distributing or selling certain smoke detection and warning equipment, results in a minimal potential revenue gain to the state beginning in FY 26 to the extent violations occur and the penalties are enforced.¹ The bill does not specify who oversees enforcement.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to the number of violations.

¹ Under the bill, a first violation is subject to a fine of up to \$100 and subsequent violations are subject to fines of up to \$500.

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 1490*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE SALE OF BATTERY-POWERED SMOKE DETECTORS IN THE STATE.*****SUMMARY**

This bill generally bans the sale, offer of sale, and distribution of smoke detection and warning equipment (smoke detectors) that are only powered by batteries, unless they are nonreplaceable, nonremovable, and designed to last at least 10 years. The ban does not apply to (1) smoke detectors that are also powered by a building's electrical system, (2) fire alarm systems with smoke detection and warning equipment, (3) fire alarms that connect to a panel, and (4) devices that use a low-power radio frequency communication signal.

The ban starts on October 1, 2025, but people may sell smoke detectors banned under this bill after then if they already possess or placed an order for them before that date.

People in violation of the ban are subject to a maximum fine of \$100 for a first offense and \$500 for any additional offense.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

BACKGROUND***The State Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Codes***

In general, the State Fire Prevention Code and Fire Safety Code require buildings that receive a building permit for new occupancy on October 1, 1985, and later to have smoke detectors that are powered by the building's electrical system and a battery. Prior to that, smoke detectors had to be powered by the building's electrical system (for new occupancy permits from October 1, 1976, to September 30, 1985). Earlier buildings could have smoke detectors powered by a battery only.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 29 Nay 0 (03/18/2025)