
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)