

Regular Session, 2014

HOUSE BILL NO. 570

BY REPRESENTATIVES STOKES AND ADAMS

PUBLIC HEALTH: Provides relative to carbon monoxide detectors

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 40:1581.1, relative to carbon monoxide alarm systems; to require carbon
3 monoxide alarm systems in existing hotels with fossil fuel burning appliances or
4 attached garages; to provide for exceptions; to provide for definitions; and to provide
5 for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 40:1581.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §1581.1. Carbon monoxide alarms; findings; existing hotel structures; exceptions;
9 definitions

10 The legislature finds the following:

11 A.(1) According to the United States Department of Health and Hospitals,
12 Center for Disease Control, carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless gas that kills
13 without warning. It claims the lives of hundreds of people each year and makes
14 thousands more ill. While homeowners and long term tenants of rental property can
15 protect themselves against this threat by installing carbon monoxide detectors, it is
16 unreasonable to expect persons who are traveling and staying in temporary lodging
17 establishments to carry carbon monoxide detectors with them to protect themselves
18 against this hidden threat.

19 (2) With the adoption of the 2012 Edition of the NFPA 101, in the Life
20 Safety Code and International Building Code, all adopted in Louisiana, most new

1 hotel construction that will contain fuel-burning appliances or attached garages will
2 be required to have carbon monoxide alarms installed in order to be code compliant.

3 (3) With the growth of the tourism industry in Louisiana, new hotels are
4 being built regularly. Persons who choose to stay in those hotels will be protected
5 from this silent threat. However, those who choose to stay in existing hotels will still
6 be in danger.

7 (4) That carbon monoxide alarms shall be required in certain existing hotels
8 where a potential threat of carbon monoxide poisoning exists. In doing so, the
9 Louisiana Legislature seeks to protect the health and welfare of all people in the state
10 who unknowingly may be exposed to carbon monoxide and who are powerless to
11 prevent it.

12 B. Single station carbon monoxide alarms shall be located in all existing
13 hotels located in buildings containing one or more fuel-burning appliance or in
14 buildings which have an attached garage.

15 C. Carbon monoxide alarms required by this Section shall comply with UL
16 2034 and be installed and maintained in accordance with NFPA 720 and the
17 manufacturer's instructions.

18 D. An open parking garage or an enclosed parking garage ventilated in
19 accordance with Section 404 of the International Mechanical Code is not considered
20 an attached garage.

21 E. Sleeping units located in a hotel which do not themselves contain a fuel-
22 burning appliance or have an attached garage, but which are located in a building
23 with a fuel-burning appliance or an attached garage, need not be equipped with
24 single station carbon monoxide alarms if all of the following apply:

25 (1) The sleeping unit is located more than one story above or below any
26 story which contains a fuel-burning appliance or attached garage.

27 (2) The sleeping unit or dwelling unit is not connected by duct work or
28 ventilation shafts to any room containing a fuel-burning appliance or to an attached
29 garage.

1 (3) The building is equipped with a common area carbon monoxide alarm
2 system.

3 F. As used in this Section, the following terms mean:

4 (1) "Hotel" means a residential occupancy containing sleeping units where
5 the occupants are primarily transient in nature, including boarding houses, hotels,
6 and motels.

7 (2) "Open parking garage" shall mean a structure or portion of a structure
8 with the openings as described on two or more sides that is used for the parking or
9 storage of private motor vehicles.

10 G. All other terms used in this Section shall be assigned the meaning
11 assigned to them in the International Commercial Building Code.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Stokes

HB No. 570

Abstract: Requires the installation of carbon monoxide detectors in existing hotel structures with fossil fuel burning appliances or an attached garage only.

Proposed law provides for legislative intent.

Proposed law requires single station carbon monoxide alarms be located in all existing hotels located in buildings containing one or more fuel-burning appliance or in buildings which have an attached garage.

Carbon monoxide alarms required pursuant to proposed law shall comply with UL 2034 and be installed and maintained in accordance with NFPA 720 and the manufacturer's instructions.

Proposed law provides that an open parking garage or an enclosed parking garage ventilated in accordance with Section 404 of the International Mechanical Code shall not be considered an attached garage.

Proposed law provides that sleeping units located in a hotel which do not themselves contain a fuel-burning appliance or have an attached garage, but which are located in a building with a fuel-burning appliance or an attached garage, need not be equipped with single station carbon monoxide alarms provided that:

- (1) The sleeping unit is located more than one story above or below any story which contains a fuel-burning appliance or attached garage.
- (2) The sleeping unit or dwelling unit is not connected by duct work or ventilation shafts to any room containing a fuel-burning appliance or to an attached garage.

(3) The building is equipped with a common area carbon monoxide alarm system.

Proposed law defines "hotel" and "open parking garage" and provides that all other terms shall be defined by the International Building Code.

(Adds R.S. 40:1581.1)