

ASSEMBLY, No. 1348

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

SYNOPSIS

Requires new one- and two-family residences to be equipped with fire extinguishers.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT requiring new one- and two-family residences to be
2 equipped with fire extinguishers and supplementing P.L.1975,
3 c.217 (C.52:27D-119 et seq.).
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
6 of New Jersey:
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8 1. a. An application for a construction permit for a new
9 structure that is intended for use as a residence by not more than
10 two households shall not be declared complete by the enforcing
11 agency unless the application provides for the placement of a
12 portable fire extinguisher in accordance with this section.

13 b. The commissioner shall promulgate rules and regulations
14 pursuant to its rule-making authority under the “Administrative
15 Procedure Act,” P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.) in order to
16 effectuate the purposes of this section. The rules and regulations
17 shall include, but not be limited to, standards for the placement of a
18 portable fire extinguisher in a structure subject to this section.

19 c. As used in this section, “portable fire extinguisher” means
20 an operable portable device, carried and operated by hand,
21 containing an extinguishing agent that can be expelled under
22 pressure for the purpose of suppressing or extinguishing fire, and
23 which is: (1) rated for residential use consisting of an ABC type; (2)
24 no larger than a 10 pound rated extinguisher; and (3) mounted
25 within 10 feet of the kitchen area, unless otherwise permitted by the
26 enforcing agency.
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28 2. This act shall take effect immediately.
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31 STATEMENT
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33 This bill would require that new one- and two-family residences
34 be equipped with fire extinguishers. Under current law, existing
35 one- and two-family residences are inspected to ensure that they are
36 equipped with fire extinguishers prior to a change in occupancy.
37 Current law does not require such an inspection prior to an initial
38 occupancy of a brand new one- or two-family residence. Under the
39 bill, a construction permit application for such a residence would
40 have to provide for the placement of a fire extinguisher. Making
41 this fire extinguisher provision a part of the construction permit
42 means that the inspection required to obtain an initial certificate of
43 occupancy would have to confirm that the covered residence is
44 equipped with a fire extinguisher.