

SENATE, No. 230

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 1996 SESSION

By Senator SACCO

1 AN ACT concerning certain swimming pools and supplementing  
2 P.L.1975, c.217 (C.52:27D-119 et seq.).

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. As used in this act:

8 "Bonding and grounding certificate" means a document issued by  
9 a nationally recognized testing agency, a licensed engineer or  
10 registered architect that verifies the electrical continuity of the bonding  
11 and grounding system of a commercial swimming pool.

12 "Commercial swimming pool" means a swimming pool on any  
13 property other than single family residential property and includes but  
14 is not limited to swimming pools open for the use of tenants or the  
15 public or both.

16 "Electrical certificate of approval" means a document issued by the  
17 municipality's electrical subcode official that verifies that all wiring  
18 located in or about the pool pump house or similar structure and  
19 associated electrical equipment is in compliance with the National  
20 Electrical Code.

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22 2. a. A commercial swimming pool shall not be opened for use or  
23 occupied in whole or in part by any person until a valid bonding and  
24 grounding certificate and electrical certificate of approval are issued.  
25 The bonding and grounding certificate shall be evidence of a bonding  
26 system that connects all the metal non-electric parts of the swimming  
27 pool, including any metal fence within 10 feet of the water line,  
28 measured in a direct line. The electrical certificate of approval shall  
29 not be issued unless a valid bonding and grounding certificate has been  
30 issued.

31 b. The bonding and grounding certificate shall be valid for a period  
32 of five years from the date of issuance. The electrical certificate of  
33 approval shall be renewed annually on the basis of a pre-season  
34 inspection by the code enforcement department of the municipality for  
35 a fee of no more than \$50.

1 c. Any electrical condition found to be defective on the pool  
2 premises shall be repaired by an electrical contractor licensed in the  
3 State of New Jersey.

4 d. The bonding and grounding certificate and the electrical  
5 certificate of approval shall be posted in or about the pool pump house  
6 or structure that encloses the pool wiring.

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8 3. This act shall take effect immediately and be applicable to  
9 inspections preceding the opening of swimming pools during the 1996  
10 summer season.

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13 STATEMENT  
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15 This bill establishes a basic level of electrical standards for  
16 swimming pools open to tenants or the public. It supplements the  
17 "State Uniform Construction Code Act" to require the issuance of two  
18 documents prior to pool use, a bonding and grounding certificate  
19 geared to the electrical continuity of the bonding and grounding  
20 system, and an electrical certificate of approval, which would verify  
21 that the wiring conforms to requirements in the current edition of the  
22 National Electrical Code.

23 The bonding and grounding certificate, valid for five years, would  
24 be issued by a nationally recognized testing agency, a licensed engineer  
25 or registered architect. However, the annual electrical certificate of  
26 approval must be issued by the municipality's electrical subcode official  
27 after payment of a fee not to exceed \$50.

28 The bill is designed to improve the life safety conditions of workers  
29 and the public at large. It is intended to prevent electrocutions  
30 associated with swimming pool use such as occurred at an apartment  
31 complex in North Brunswick in the summer of 1994 when a lifeguard  
32 touched a pump with faulty wiring.

33 During the summer of 1995, the Department of Health issued a  
34 Health Alert Bulletin which contained a warning to the employees and  
35 owners of public swimming pools concerning the potential life safety  
36 dangers of electrical systems associated with pools.

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41 Requires electrical inspections of swimming pools open for tenants or  
42 the public.