

SENATE, No. 1375

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED JUNE 24, 1996

By Senator BASSANO

1 AN ACT concerning certified fire inspectors and supplementing and
2 amending P.L.1983, c.383.

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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. (New section) Any person employed by the State and certified
8 by the commissioner as a fire inspector under P.L. 1983, c. 383
9 (C.52:27D-192 et seq.) may inspect all buildings, structures and
10 premises owned or occupied by the State, its agencies, departments,
11 or instrumentalities.

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13 2. Section 22 of P.L.1983, c.383 (C.52:27D-213) is amended to
14 read as follows:

15 22. a. This act shall not be construed as authorizing the adoption
16 of a regulation or the enactment of an ordinance requiring that a
17 building conforming in all respects to the requirements of the "State
18 Uniform Construction Code Act," P.L.1975, c.217 (C.52:27D-119 et
19 seq.) be made to conform to more restrictive standards.

20 b. Buildings, structures and premises owned or operated by the
21 State, its agencies, departments, or instrumentalities or an interstate
22 agency shall be inspected [exclusively] by the Department of
23 Community Affairs or a person employed by the State and certified by
24 the commissioner as a fire inspector pursuant to subsection c. of
25 section 12 of P.L.1983, c. 383 (C.52:27D-203), and shall conform to
26 this act in the same manner as all other buildings, structures and
27 premises of similar construction and use classification; but no fees or
28 penalties shall be charged to or assessed against the State, its agency,
29 department or instrumentality, or an interstate agency. For purposes
30 of this section, a unit of local government, whether county, inter-local
31 or municipal, or a local, county, regional or consolidated school
32 district, shall not be deemed to be an instrumentality of the State.

33 c. Buildings, structures and premises subject to inspection for fire
34 safety by an agency of the State shall be inspected by the agency or a

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 person employed by the State and certified by the commissioner as a
2 fire inspector pursuant to subsection c. of section 12 of P.L.1983, c.
3 383 (C.52:27D-203), in accordance with the standards established
4 pursuant to this act. Any State fire safety standard for buildings,
5 structures or premises established by or pursuant to any statute other
6 than this act shall continue in effect until such time as that standard is
7 superseded by appropriate regulations promulgated under this act. An
8 agency of the State that enforced fire standards prior to the effective
9 date of this act shall be entitled to petition the commissioner to
10 establish a regulation establishing the standards it considers to be
11 necessary and appropriate for buildings, structures and premises
12 subject to its inspection.

13 (cf: P.L.1991, c.222, s.1)

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15 3. This act shall take effect on the first day of the fourth month
16 following enactment.

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STATEMENT

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21 This bill would allow a person who is employed by the State and
22 certified by the Commissioner of Community Affairs as a fire inspector
23 to inspect State buildings, structures and premises. Currently, fire
24 inspectors employed in the Department of Community Affairs
25 exclusively inspect State property. However, fire inspectors in the
26 Department of Community Affairs receive the same certification as
27 those in other departments. With certified fire inspectors available
28 throughout the State, it is both logical and efficient to allow all
29 certified State employed fire inspectors to inspect State property,
30 instead of limiting the inspections to the employees of one department.

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36 Allows all State employed certified fire inspectors to inspect State
property.