

1975 Assembly Bill 128

Date published: June 2, 1976

## CHAPTER 293, Laws of 1975

AN ACT to create 101.125 of the statutes, relating to safety glazing in hazardous locations, granting rule-making authority and providing a penalty.

*The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. 101.125 of the statutes is created to read:

**101.125 Safety glazing in hazardous locations.** (1) DEFINITIONS. In this section:

(a) "Building" means a "place of employment" as defined in s. 101.01 (2) (a) and a "public building" as defined in s. 101.01 (2) (h) and includes, without limitation because of enumeration, wholesale and retail stores, storerooms, office buildings, factories, warehouses, governmental buildings, hotels, hospitals, motels, dormitories, sanitariums, nursing homes, retirement homes, theaters, stadiums, gymnasiums, amusement park buildings, schools and other buildings used for educational purposes, places of worship and other places of public assembly and all residences including mobile homes, manufactured or industrialized housing, lodging homes and any other building used as a dwelling for one or more persons.

(b) "Entrance and exit door" means a hinged, pivoting, revolving or sliding door which is used alone or in combination with other such doors on interior or exterior walls of a residential, commercial or public building for passage, ingress or egress.

(c) "Fixed or operating, flat panels immediately adjacent to an entrance or exit door" means the first fixed or operating, flat panel on either or both sides of an interior or exterior door if:

1. The nearest vertical edge of such panel is located within 2 feet of the nearest vertical edge of the door; and
2. The lower horizontal edge of such panel is less than 2 feet from the floor.

(d) "Hazardous location" means the location of a structural element in a building which is used as an entrance and exit door to a compartment, room or building; the fixed or operating, flat panels immediately adjacent to an entrance or exit door; a sliding glass door unit; a storm or combination door; a shower and bathtub enclosure; and the adjacent sidelites of a door. In the case of a public building, the term also includes any other location designated by the department.

(e) "Safety glazing material" means any transparent or translucent material, including tempered glass, laminated glass, wire glass and rigid plastic, which is constructed, treated or combined with other materials to minimize the likelihood of

cutting or piercing injuries to humans, and which is approved by rule of the department as meeting departmental standards for the location in which it is to be applied.

(f) "Sliding glass door unit" means a panel or an assembly of panels contained in a frame designed so that at least one panel is movable in a horizontal direction.

(g) "Storm or combination door" means a door which protects an entrance or exit door against weather elements and affects indoor temperature control.

(2) LABELING REQUIRED. (a) Except as provided in par. (b), each lite of safety glazing material manufactured, distributed, imported, sold or installed for use in a hazardous location shall be permanently labeled with a label which:

1. States the nominal thickness and the type of safety glazing material;
2. Identifies the labeling seller, manufacturer, fabricator or installer;
3. Is legible and so positioned as to be legible after installation; and
4. Is distinctive in design and is not used on materials other than safety glazing materials.

(b) The department may by rule provide that in new construction or remodeling, the installation of safety glazing material may be recorded with the department or other appropriate agency designated by it, by the filing of an affidavit certifying the installation, in lieu of the labeling requirement of par. (a), if it finds that enforcement of this section will not be hindered by such substitute procedure.

(3) SAFETY GLAZING MATERIALS REQUIRED. No material supplier, builder, contractor or subcontractor may knowingly install, cause to be installed, consent to the installation, or sell for installation in any hazardous location, transparent or translucent materials other than safety glazing materials, except that:

(a) In buildings contracted for or existing on or before the effective date of this act (1975), the department may by rule require the installation of a vertical or horizontal bar, rail, grill or screen as a protective device in lieu of safety glazing material in hazardous locations where safety glazing would be impractical because of the size of the lite required.

(b) The department may by rule exempt from the requirements of this section and, if it deems necessary, prescribe other less stringent protective requirements for:

1. Any lite which is 8 inches or less in the least dimension, or no more than 4 inches in either dimension, and which is used in an application which the department finds is not hazardous.
2. Leaded stained glass which is used in an application which the department finds is not hazardous.

(c) Any mirror, framed glazed picture or similar decorative object which is attached to a door or wall in a hazardous location and which does not in whole or in part conceal any opening in such door or wall is exempt from the requirements of this section.

(4) LIABILITY OF EMPLOYERS AND SELLERS. (a) No employe of a person responsible for compliance with this section is liable for the employer's failure to comply.

(b) No seller of glazing materials is subject to the penalty under sub. (5) or is liable for injuries occurring to any person if the seller has exercised reasonable care to see that the glazing materials sold by him or her are properly used.

(5) PENALTY. Whoever violates this section may be required to forfeit not less than \$100 nor more than \$500.

**SECTION 2. Effective date.** This act shall take effect on the 181st day after publication and shall apply to installations or replacements made after that date but not to contracts entered into on or before that date.

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