

**DRAFTER'S NOTE**  
**FROM THE**  
**LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU**

LRB-3088/1dn  
RJM:hmh:jf

May 8, 2001

1. Current law requires the owner of a residential public building (including an apartment building or hotel) to install a smoke detector on "each floor level of the building." See s. 101.145 (4), stats. In order to make this statute consistent with the requirement you requested, this bill requires an owner of a residential public building to install a heat detector in the attic, rather than a smoke detector. Please let me know if this treatment is inconsistent with your intent.

2. The requirements of this bill apply to owners of residential public buildings, owners of one-family and two-family dwellings, manufacturers of manufactured dwellings, and manufacturers of manufactured homes. The requirements that apply to manufacturers only apply to dwellings or homes manufactured on or after the date on which the bill takes effect. The requirements that apply to owners apply retroactively. Please let me know if this treatment is not what you intend.

3. The heat detector required under this bill must be designed to activate upon detecting a fixed temperature or upon detecting that the temperature is rising at or above a specified rate. Apparently, these types of heat detectors are more appropriate for attics because attics may get extremely cold during the winter. A fixed-temperature heat detector is more likely to fail in such an environment than a heat detector that is triggered by the rate at which the temperature is rising.

I am not an expert on these matters and I encourage you to consult with the department of commerce regarding the specifications for the required heat detector. Please let me know if you intend to specify some other type of heat detector or if you have any other concerns.

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