

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DHFS 10/23/2007

LRB Number	07-0931/2	Introduction Number	SB-289	Estimate Type	Original
Description					
The installation of carbon monoxide detectors in certain buildings, providing an exemption from emergency rule procedures, granting rule-making authority, and providing penalties					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

SB 289 creates a requirement that residential buildings install carbon monoxide detectors in addition to the current requirement for smoke detector installation. The bill requires the Department to promulgate rules, in consultation with the Department of Commerce, under which the Department shall conduct annual inspections of sealed combustion units (fuel-burning appliances) for carbon monoxide emissions in hotels, rooming houses and bed and breakfast facilities.

Currently, the Department and its local agents inspect hotel and other facilities on a regular basis to ensure the establishments are compliant with health and safety regulations. Inspections of sealed combustion units, which are required under this bill if the facility is eligible for the exception to place carbon monoxide detectors and chooses this option, require specialized training that Department staff does not currently have and equipment to perform these inspections that the Department does not currently have. There would be a cost to the Department for this training, equipment, and workload. However, the cost cannot be estimated because it is dependent on the inspection standards the Department would develop through rule and the number of facilities that would choose to have their sealed combustion units inspected rather than place detectors in the facility.

The Department can, however, incorporate into its current workload inspections of carbon monoxide detectors to ensure they are functioning. The cost of this additional requirement to the Department is indeterminate but not expected to be significant.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications