
SENATE BILL 6710

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2008 Regular Session

By Senators Keiser and Marr; by request of Washington State Patrol

Read first time 01/22/08. Referred to Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research & Development.

1 AN ACT Relating to standards for fire protection of hospitals; and
2 amending RCW 70.41.080 and 18.160.050.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 **Sec. 1.** RCW 70.41.080 and 2004 c 261 s 3 are each amended to read
5 as follows:

6 Standards for fire protection and the enforcement thereof, with
7 respect to all hospitals to be licensed hereunder shall be the
8 responsibility of the chief of the Washington state patrol, through the
9 director of fire protection, who shall adopt, after approval by the
10 department, such recognized standards as may be applicable to hospitals
11 for the protection of life against the cause and spread of fire and
12 fire hazards. Such standards shall be consistent with the standards
13 adopted by the federal centers for medicare and medicaid services for
14 hospitals that care for medicare or medicaid beneficiaries. The
15 department upon receipt of an application for a license, shall submit
16 to the director of fire protection in writing, a request for an
17 inspection, giving the applicant's name and the location of the
18 premises to be licensed. Upon receipt of such a request, the chief of
19 the Washington state patrol, through the director of fire protection,

1 or his or her deputy, shall make an inspection of the hospital to be
2 licensed, and if it is found that the premises do not comply with the
3 required safety standards and fire regulations as adopted pursuant to
4 this chapter, he or she shall promptly make a written report to the
5 hospital and to the department listing the corrective actions required
6 and the time allowed for accomplishing such corrections. The applicant
7 or licensee shall notify the chief of the Washington state patrol,
8 through the director of fire protection, upon completion of any
9 corrections required by him or her, and the chief of the Washington
10 state patrol, through the director of fire protection, or his or her
11 deputy, shall make a reinspection of such premises. Whenever the
12 hospital to be licensed meets with the approval of the chief of the
13 Washington state patrol, through the director of fire protection, he or
14 she shall submit to the department a written report approving the
15 hospital with respect to fire protection, and such report is required
16 before a full license can be issued. The chief of the Washington state
17 patrol, through the director of fire protection, shall make or cause to
18 be made inspections of such hospitals at least once (~~a year~~) every
19 eighteen months. Inspections conducted by the joint commission on the
20 accreditation of health care organizations on hospitals accredited by
21 this body shall be deemed equivalent to an inspection by the chief of
22 the Washington state patrol, through the director of fire protection,
23 for purposes of meeting the requirements for the inspections specified
24 in this chapter if the chief of the Washington state patrol, through
25 the director of fire protection, determines that the applicable
26 inspection standards of the joint commission on the accreditation of
27 health care organizations are substantially equivalent to its own.

28 In cities which have in force a comprehensive building code, the
29 provisions of which are determined by the chief of the Washington state
30 patrol, through the director of fire protection, to be equal to the
31 minimum standards of the code for hospitals adopted by the chief of the
32 Washington state patrol, through the director of fire protection, the
33 chief of the fire department, provided the latter is a paid chief of a
34 paid fire department, shall make the inspection with the chief of the
35 Washington state patrol, through the director of fire protection, or
36 his or her deputy and they shall jointly approve the premises before a
37 full license can be issued.

1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.160.050 and 2005 c 109 s 1 are each amended to read
2 as follows:

3 (1)(a) All certificate of competency holders that desire to
4 continue in the fire protection sprinkler business shall annually,
5 prior to January 1, secure from the state director of fire protection
6 a renewal certificate of competency upon payment of the fee as
7 prescribed by the state director of fire protection. Application for
8 renewal shall be upon a form prescribed by the state director of fire
9 protection and the certificate holder shall furnish the information
10 required by the director.

11 (b) Failure of any certificate of competency holder to secure his
12 or her renewal certificate of competency within sixty days after the
13 due date shall constitute sufficient cause for the state director of
14 fire protection to suspend the certificate of competency.

15 (c) The state director of fire protection may, upon the receipt of
16 payment of all delinquent fees including a late charge, restore a
17 certificate of competency that has been suspended for failure to pay
18 the renewal fee.

19 (d) A certificate of competency holder may voluntarily surrender
20 his or her certificate of competency to the state director of fire
21 protection and be relieved of the annual renewal fee. After
22 surrendering the certificate of competency, he or she shall not be
23 known as a certificate of competency holder and shall desist from the
24 practice thereof. Within two years from the time of surrender of the
25 certificate of competency, he or she may again qualify for a
26 certificate of competency, without examination, by the payment of the
27 required fee. If two or more years have elapsed, he or she shall
28 return to the status of a new applicant.

29 (2)(a) All licensed fire protection sprinkler system contractors
30 desiring to continue to be licensed shall annually, prior to January 1,
31 secure from the state director of fire protection a renewal license
32 upon payment of the fee as prescribed by the state director of fire
33 protection. Application for renewal shall be upon a form prescribed by
34 the state director of fire protection and the license holder shall
35 furnish the information required by the director.

36 (b) Failure of any license holder to secure his or her renewal
37 license within sixty days after the due date shall constitute

1 sufficient cause for the state director of fire protection to suspend
2 the license.

3 (c) The state director of fire protection may, upon the receipt of
4 payment of all delinquent fees including a late charge, restore a
5 license that has been suspended for failure to pay the renewal fee.

6 (3) The initial certificate of competency or license fee shall be
7 prorated based upon the portion of the year such certificate of
8 competency or license is in effect, prior to renewal on January 1.

9 (4) The fire protection contractor license fund is created in the
10 custody of the state treasurer. All receipts from license and
11 certificate fees and charges or from the money generated by the rules
12 and regulations promulgated under this chapter shall be deposited into
13 the fund. Expenditures from the fund may be used only for purposes
14 authorized under this chapter and standards for fire protection and its
15 enforcement, with respect to all hospitals as required by RCW
16 70.41.080, and for providing assistance in identifying fire sprinkler
17 system components that have been subject to either a recall or
18 voluntary replacement program by a manufacturer of fire sprinkler
19 products, a nationally recognized testing laboratory, or the federal
20 consumer product safety commission. Assistance shall include, but is
21 not limited to, aiding in the identification of recalled components,
22 information sharing strategies aimed at ensuring the consumer is made
23 aware of recalls and voluntary replacement programs, and providing
24 training and assistance to local fire authorities, the fire sprinkler
25 industry, and the public. Only the state director of fire protection
26 or the director's designee may authorize expenditures from the fund.
27 The fund is subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW,
28 but no appropriation is required for expenditures.

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