

FINAL BILL REPORT

SB 6090

C 149 L 20
Synopsis as Enacted

Brief Description: Limiting fire protection service agency liability for the installation of detection devices.

Sponsors: Senators Warnick, Honeyford and Liias.

Senate Committee on Local Government
House Committee on Civil Rights & Judiciary

Background: Fire Protection Districts. Fire protection districts (fire districts) are created to provide fire and emergency services to protect life and property in locations outside of cities and towns. A fire district may be established through a process involving a petition by the residents of a proposed district, a public hearing, and three-fifths voter approval. Fire districts are governed by a board of three, five, or seven elected fire commissioners.

Summary: Any fire protection service agency or individual firefighters, whether volunteer or paid, that delivers to, or installs at, residential premises a device or batteries for such a device is not liable for civil damages resulting from any act or omission in the delivery or installation of a device or batteries for such a device, if the following criteria are met:

- the device is new and meets all applicable current safety and manufacturing standards;
- installation was done in conformance with the manufacturer's instructions;
- such installation or delivery was in the fire protection service agency's official capacity; and
- the act or omission did not constitute gross negligence or willful or wanton misconduct.

"Device" includes any battery-operated or plug-in smoke detector, carbon monoxide detector, or combination smoke and carbon monoxide detector. Any fire protection service agency delivering or installing a device must keep records as required for public records purposes.

Votes on Final Passage:

Senate	44	0	
House	96	0	(House amended)
Senate	48	0	(Senate concurred)

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Effective: June 11, 2020