

**Important safety notice from the Building Department regarding home owner responsibility for compliance with Public ACT 12-184**

*Substitute House Bill No. 5394*



*Public Act No. 12-184*

***AN ACT CONCERNING SMOKE AND CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS AND ALARMS IN RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 2, 2012*) Whenever any private residential dwelling designed to be occupied by one or two families is occupied during interior alterations or additions requiring a building permit, the temporary installation of battery-operated smoke detection and warning equipment and, if there is a fuel-burning appliance, fireplace or attached garage present, battery-operated carbon monoxide detection and warning equipment shall be required in the vicinity of, and during the performance of, such alterations or additions. Such equipment shall be of a type or technology that is tested and certified pursuant to standards issued by the American National Standards Institute or Underwriters Laboratories. Such equipment may combine smoke and carbon monoxide detection technology into a single device.

Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2012*) The Commissioner of Construction Services may establish, within available appropriations, a public awareness campaign to educate the public concerning the dangers of not having smoke and carbon monoxide detection and warning equipment in residential dwellings and to promote the installation of smoke and carbon monoxide detection and warning equipment in all residential dwellings.

Visit <http://www.trumbull-ct.gov/content/10623/10655/10892/default.aspx> for more information.

Please contact the Building Dept. at 203 452 5020 if you have any questions.



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSTRUCTION SERVICES  
Office of the State Building Inspector



MEMORANDUM

TO: Municipal Building Officials

DATE: October 3, 2012

RE: Public Act 12-184  
An Act Concerning Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Detectors and Alarms in Residential Dwellings

On 10/1/12, Public Act 12-184 went into effect. See attached. The new law requires in pertinent part that, "Whenever any private residential dwelling designed to be occupied by one or two families is occupied during interior alterations or additions requiring a building permit, the temporary installation of battery-operated smoke detection and warning equipment and, if there is a fuel-burning appliance, fireplace or attached garage present, battery-operated carbon monoxide detection and warning equipment shall be required in the vicinity of, and during the performance of, such alterations or additions. Such equipment shall be of a type or technology that is tested and certified pursuant to standards issued by the American National Standards Institute or Underwriters Laboratories. Such equipment may combine smoke and carbon monoxide detection technology into a single device."

This law has not been inserted under the statutory authority of either the Building Officials or Are Marshals, **leaving responsibility for compliance with the homeowner**. This legislation was the result of the horrific incident that occurred in Stamford, Connecticut, in December 2011. Proponents of this bill believe that lives would have been saved had temporary detectors been installed in this home, which was undergoing significant renovations at the time of the fire. *With* this in mind, we are asking that you highlight this new requirement to your customers affected by it.

We greatly appreciate your assistance in this very important public service effort.

Joseph V. Cassidy, P.E.  
Acting State Building Inspector  
Director of Technical Services  
Dept. of Construction Services  
165 Capitol Avenue, Room 4738  
Hartford, CT 06106  
Phone: 860-713-5705  
Email: joseph.cassidy@ct.gov