



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 368

January Session, 2003

House Bill No. 6541

House of Representatives, April 15, 2003

The Committee on Planning and Development reported through REP. WALLACE of the 109th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE INSTALLATION OF WOOD AND COAL BURNING STOVES IN RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2003*) Any owner of a
2 residential building who intends to install a wood or coal burning
3 stove in such dwelling using a chimney at least fifty years old shall
4 notify the local building official of such intent prior to installation.
5 Upon receipt of such notice, the local building official shall inspect
6 each chimney in any residential dwelling that is at least fifty years old
7 prior to the installation of a wood or coal burning stove in such
8 dwelling utilizing such chimney.

This act shall take effect as follows:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2003</i>
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PS *Joint Favorable C/R*

PD

PD *Joint Favorable*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Type	FY 04 \$	FY 05 \$
Public Safety, Dept.	GF - None	None	None

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 04 \$	FY 05 \$
Various Municipalities	STATE MANDATE - Cost	Potential	Potential

Explanation

The bill requires (1) building owners to notify local building officials before installing wood or coal burning stoves in certain residential dwellings, and (2) building officials to inspect chimneys before stove installation.¹ Municipal building departments do not generally have the equipment, personnel, or expertise to perform chimney inspections. Passage of the bill would result in potential costs related to acquiring these things. In addition, there would be potential costs associated with the assumption of potential liability for the actual chimney cleanings.

¹ The State Building Code currently requires that all installed heating devices be approved by local building officials through the issuance of a permit.

OLR Bill Analysis

HB 6541

AN ACT CONCERNING THE INSTALLATION OF WOOD AND COAL BURNING STOVES IN RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS

SUMMARY:

This bill requires building owners to notify the local building official before installing wood- or coal-burning stoves in any residential dwelling using a chimney at least 50 years old. It requires the building official to inspect the chimney before the stove is installed.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2003

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety Committee

Joint Favorable Change of Reference

Yea 20 Nay 0

Planning and Development Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 12 Nay 3