



# Senate

General Assembly

**File No. 230**

*January Session, 2003*

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1111

*Senate, April 8, 2003*

The Committee on General Law reported through SEN. COLAPIETRO of the 31st Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

## **AN ACT CONCERNING THE SALE OF ELECTRIC, GAS AND OIL FIRED HEATING UNITS.**

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2003*) (a) As used in this  
2 section:

3 (1) "Electric heating unit" means equipment, including, but not  
4 limited to, pressure vessels, tanks, furnaces, heat pumps, unit heaters,  
5 baseboard heaters, control devices and accessories designed to use  
6 electricity to provide heat or domestic hot water for a residential  
7 dwelling or commercial or institutional building.

8 (2) "Gas heating unit" means equipment, including, but not limited  
9 to, pressure vessels, tanks, furnaces, infrared heaters, space heaters,  
10 unit heaters, gas burners, control devices and accessories designed to  
11 burn natural gas, gas or propane to provide heat or domestic hot water  
12 for a residential dwelling or commercial or institutional building.

13 (3) "Oil fired heating unit" means equipment, including, but not  
14 limited to, pressure vessels, tanks, furnaces, unit heaters, space heaters,  
15 oil burners, control devices and accessories designed to burn fuel oil,  
16 kerosene or waste oil to provide heat or domestic hot water for a  
17 residential dwelling or commercial or industrial building.

18 (4) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Consumer  
19 Protection.

20 (b) No person shall sell an electric or gas heating unit or oil fired  
21 heating unit requiring a building permit for installation unless the  
22 purchaser of the unit provides the seller with (1) the name and a copy  
23 of the occupational license of the contractor purchasing the unit, or (2)  
24 verification that a building permit has been issued for the installation  
25 of the unit.

26 (c) Prior to releasing the unit specified in subsection (b) of this  
27 section to the purchaser, the seller shall record in writing the following  
28 information: (1) The date of purchase of the unit, (2) the name and  
29 address of the purchaser, (3) the contractor's name and occupational  
30 license number, if applicable, (4) a copy of the building permit and the  
31 name of the municipality that issued the permit, if applicable, and (5)  
32 the location where the unit will be installed. The seller shall maintain  
33 such records for a minimum of three years from the date of sale. The  
34 seller shall permit the commissioner or the commissioner's authorized  
35 agents to inspect and copy such records during normal business hours.

36 (d) The commissioner may impose a civil penalty of not more than  
37 one thousand dollars for each violation of this section. For purposes of  
38 this subsection, each sale of a unit in violation of subsection (b) or (c) of  
39 this section shall constitute a separate violation.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	October 1, 2003

**GL** Joint Favorable Subst.

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 \$
Consumer Protection, Dept.	GF - Potential Revenue Gain	Indeterminate	Indeterminate

Note: GF=General Fund

**Municipal Impact:** None

**Explanation**

This bill requires the purchaser of an electric, gas and oil-fired heating unit that requires a building permit for its installation to present to the seller either 1) the name and a copy of the occupational license or 2) proof that a building permit for the installation has been issued. The seller must record and maintain the information for a period of three years and allow consumer protection staff to inspect and copy the records. The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may impose a civil penalty of \$1,000 per violation.

Passage of this bill could result in a potential revenue gain from the imposition of fines; however, such potential revenue gain is at present indeterminate.

Any resultant workload increase can be performed by current staff without the need for additional budgetary resources.

**OLR Bill Analysis**

sSB 1111

**AN ACT CONCERNING THE SALE OF ELECTRIC, GAS AND OIL FIRED HEATING UNITS****SUMMARY:**

This bill prohibits the sale of electric, gas, and oil-fired heating units that require a building permit for installation unless the purchaser provides the seller with either (1) the name, and a copy of the occupational license, of the contractor purchasing the unit or (2) proof that a building permit for installation has been issued. It requires the seller to record certain information in writing at the time of sale and to maintain the records for at least three years. The seller must permit the consumer protection commissioner or his agents to inspect and copy the records during normal business hours. The bill authorizes the commissioner to fine violators \$1,000 for each violation, and makes each sale of a unit that does not meet these provisions a separate violation.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2003

**SALES RECORDS**

Before releasing an electric, gas, or oil-fired heating unit to the purchaser, the seller must record in writing:

1. the date the unit was purchased;
2. the name and address of the purchaser;
3. the location where the unit will be installed; and
4. either the contractor's name and occupational license number or a copy of the building permit and the name of the municipality that issued it.

**HEATING UNITS**

The bill covers heating units that provide heat or domestic hot water to

a residential dwelling or a commercial or institutional building. An electric heating unit includes pressure vessels, tanks, furnaces, heat pumps, unit and baseboard heaters, control devices and accessories. A gas-heating unit includes pressure vessels, tanks, furnaces, infrared space and unit heaters, gas burners, control devices, and accessories. An oil-fired heating unit includes pressure vessels, tanks, furnaces, unit and space heaters, oil burners, control devices, and accessories.

**BACKGROUND**

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 17      Nay 0