



# House of Representatives

General Assembly

**File No. 42**

February Session, 2012

House Bill No. 5248

*House of Representatives, March 19, 2012*

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through REP. DARGAN of the 115th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

## **AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROHIBITION ON THE USE OF UREA-FORMALDEHYDE INSULATION.**

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

1 Section 1. Section 29-277 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2012*):

3 (a) [Urea-formaldehyde (UF) foamed-in-place insulation, also  
4 referred to as formaldehyde-based insulation, means any cellular  
5 plastic thermal material which contains as a component chemical  
6 formaldehyde, formaldehyde polymers, formaldehyde derivatives and  
7 any other chemical from which formaldehyde can be released, but  
8 does not mean urethane foam insulation or styrene foam insulation]  
9 As used in this section, "urea-formaldehyde foamed-in-place  
10 insulation" means a cellular plastic insulation material generated in a  
11 continuous stream by mixing the components which are a urea-  
12 formaldehyde resin, air and a foaming agent.

13 (b) Urea-formaldehyde foamed-in-place insulation shall not be

14 installed in any building or structure on or after [June 1, 1981] the  
15 effective date of this section.

16 (c) Any person who violates any provision of this section shall be  
17 fined not more than five hundred dollars for the first offense and for  
18 each subsequent offense shall be fined not more than one thousand  
19 dollars.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2012	29-277

**PS**      *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

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**OFA Fiscal Note****State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None**Explanation**

There is no fiscal impact associated with permitting the use of phenolic-based foam insulation. No fines have been issued for the use of any formaldehyde-based insulation in the last five fiscal years.

**The Out Years****State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None*Source: Judicial Revenue Database*

**OLR Bill Analysis****HB 5248*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE PROHIBITION ON THE USE OF UREA-FORMALDEHYDE INSULATION.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill replaces a broad definition of urea-formaldehyde foamed-in-place insulation (UFFI), which is banned under current law, with a narrower definition. It limits the ban to cellular plastic insulation material generated in a continuous stream by mixing urea-formaldehyde resin, air, and a foaming agent. The current ban applies to any cellular plastic thermal material, irrespective of how generated, that contains chemical formaldehyde, formaldehyde polymers or derivatives, or other chemicals that can release formaldehyde. It does not include urethane foam insulation or styrene foam insulation, which is also exempt under the bill.

By law, a first violation is punishable by a fine of up to \$500 and a subsequent violation by a fine of up to \$1,000.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2012

**BACKGROUND*****Urea Formaldehyde Foamed-in-Place Insulation***

UFFI consists of urea, formaldehyde, and a surfactant or foaming agent. At an installation site, the urea-formaldehyde resin and foaming agent are combined with air. It is then injected inside the walls, where it hardens and acts as insulation.

**COMMITTEE ACTION**

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 21    Nay 0    (03/01/2012)