



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 6683

January Session, 2023



AN ACT CONCERNING DEMOLITION OF SINGLE-FAMILY RESIDENCES AND ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE ON NOTIFICATION OF FIRE DEPARTMENTS OF POWER OUTAGES.

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

1 Section 1. Section 29-402 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2023*):

3 (a) As used in this part, the term "license" includes the whole or part
4 of any permit which the Department of Administrative Services issues
5 under authority of the general statutes, and which (1) requires persons
6 to place their names on a list maintained by the department before
7 they can engage in the business of demolition of buildings, (2) requires
8 a person to demonstrate competence by examination or other means,
9 and (3) may be revoked or suspended by the department for cause.

10 (b) No person shall engage in the business of demolition of
11 buildings without a license obtained from the Department of
12 Administrative Services. An applicant for an initial license shall file an
13 application with the Department of Administrative Services, furnish
14 evidence of expertise and pay a fee of four hundred forty dollars for a
15 class B license and nine hundred forty dollars for a class A license.
16 Each license shall be valid for twelve months from date of issuance and
17 shall be renewable on application of the licensee upon payment of an
18 annual fee of two hundred fifty dollars for a class B license and seven

19 hundred fifty dollars for a class A license. The department may refuse
20 to issue any such license for cause, and may revoke or refuse to renew
21 any such license for failure to carry out and conform to the provisions
22 of this part or to any regulations adopted hereunder, or for any
23 violation of title 22a. No person shall be refused a license or a renewal
24 thereof, and no license shall be revoked, without an opportunity for a
25 hearing conducted by the Department of Administrative Services in
26 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54.

27 (c) The provisions of this section shall not apply to (1) a person who
28 is engaged in the disassembly, transportation and reconstruction of
29 historic buildings for historical purposes, in the demolition of farm
30 buildings, in the renovation, alteration or reconstruction of a single-
31 family residence or in the disassembly of nonstructural building
32 materials of a building for the purpose of reusing or recycling such
33 building materials, (2) the removal of underground petroleum storage
34 tanks, (3) the burning of a building or structure as part of an organized
35 fire department training exercise, (4) the deconstruction or disassembly
36 of swimming pools, or (5) the demolition of [a single-family residence
37 or] an outbuilding by an owner of such structure if it does not exceed a
38 height of thirty feet, provided (A) the owner shall be present on site
39 while such demolition work is in progress and shall be held personally
40 liable for any injury to individuals or damage to public or private
41 property caused by such demolition, and (B) such demolition shall be
42 permitted only with respect to [buildings] outbuildings which have
43 clearance from other structures, roads or highways equal to or greater
44 than the height of the structure subject to demolition. The local
45 building official may require additional clearance when deemed
46 necessary for safety.

47 Sec. 2. (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a task force to
48 study notification of fire departments of power outages. The task force
49 shall examine the circumstances when electric distribution companies
50 should inform a fire department of a loss of electric service in the
51 community served by the fire department, in order to promote public
52 safety and assist the fire department in protecting the community from

53 fires.

54 (b) The task force shall consist of the following members:

55 (1) Two appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
56 one of whom is a representative of an electric distribution company;

57 (2) Two appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one
58 of whom is a chief of a fire department;

59 (3) One appointed by the majority leader of the House of
60 Representatives, who is a municipal chief executive officer;

61 (4) One appointed by the majority leader of the Senate, who is a
62 representative of an electric distribution company;

63 (5) One appointed by the minority leader of the House of
64 Representatives, who is a chief of a fire department;

65 (6) One appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, who is a
66 municipal chief executive officer;

67 (7) The chairperson of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, or
68 the chairperson's designee;

69 (8) The State Fire Administrator, or the administrator's designee;
70 and

71 (9) One person appointed by the Governor.

72 (c) Any member of the task force appointed under subdivision (1),
73 (2), (3), (4), (5) or (6) of subsection (b) of this section may be a member
74 of the General Assembly.

75 (d) All initial appointments to the task force shall be made not later
76 than thirty days after the effective date of this section. Any vacancy
77 shall be filled by the appointing authority.

78 (e) The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president

79 pro tempore of the Senate shall select the chairpersons of the task force
80 from among the members of the task force. Such chairpersons shall
81 schedule the first meeting of the task force, which shall be held not
82 later than sixty days after the effective date of this section.

83 (f) The administrative staff of the joint standing committee of the
84 General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public
85 safety and security shall serve as administrative staff of the task force.

86 (g) Not later than January 1, 2024, the task force shall submit a
87 report on its findings and recommendations to the joint standing
88 committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
89 relating to public safety and security, in accordance with the
90 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes. The task force shall
91 terminate on the date that it submits such report or January 1, 2024,
92 whichever is later.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	29-402
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In Section 1(c)(5)(B) "buildings" was bracketed and after the closing bracket "outbuildings" was inserted for consistency.

PS *Joint Favorable Subst.*