
OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 343

AN ACT CONCERNING MEMBERSHIP OF THE CODES AND STANDARDS COMMITTEE AND BATTERY-CHARGED SECURITY FENCES.

SUMMARY

This bill prohibits a municipality from adopting or enforcing an ordinance, order, or regulation that:

1. requires a permit or fee to install or use a battery-charged security fence, other than an alarm system permit;
2. imposes installation or operational requirements for these fences that are inconsistent from the bill's requirements; or
3. prohibits the installation or use of these fences.

Additionally, the bill increases the Codes and Standards Committee membership from 21 to 23 members, adding two new members with expertise in multi-family residential construction and residential remodeling.

Under current law, two committee members must be builders or construction superintendents, with one having expertise in residential construction and the other in nonresidential construction. The bill increases this to four members who must be builders, remodelers, or construction superintendents. It requires one each to have expertise in residential remodeling, commercial construction, single-family detached residential construction, and multifamily residential construction.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

BATTERY-CHARGED SECURITY FENCE

Under the bill, a "battery-charged security fence" is an alarm system and ancillary components, or equipment attached to the system,

including a fence, an energizer, cameras, and a battery-charging device used exclusively to charge the battery, that:

1. interfaces with a monitored alarm device in a way that enables the alarm system to transmit a signal intended to alert the business owner whose business the fence protects or a law enforcement officer in response to an intrusion or burglary;
2. is located on property that a municipality has not zoned exclusively for residential use;
3. has an energizer that is powered by a commercial storage battery that is not more than 12 volts of direct current and meets International Electrotechnical Commission Standard 60335-2-76;
4. is behind and inside a nonelectric fence, wall, or barrier that is at least five feet tall;
5. is the higher of (a) 10 feet high or (b) at least two feet higher than the nonelectric fence; and
6. is marked with conspicuous warning signs that are located on the fence at no more than 30-foot intervals, and the signs state: "WARNING – ELECTRIC FENCE."

BACKGROUND

Codes and Standards Committee

The committee works with the state building inspector and state fire marshal to implement the state building, fire safety, and fire prevention codes. Its members include architects, professional engineers, construction superintendents, and local building and fire officials.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 25 Nay 0 (03/19/2024)