

HOUSE No. 793

By Mr. Ruane of Salem, petition of J. Michael Ruane and others that provision be made for the security, testing and supplying of power to smoke detectors located within a rental dwelling unit. Public Safety.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty-Six.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE SECURITY, TESTING AND SUPPLYING OF POWER TO SMOKE DETECTORS LOCATED WITHIN A RENTAL DWELLING UNIT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 In dwelling units that are rented or leased, the individual who
2 rents or leases the unit is charged with the security of, and periodic
3 maintenance of testing of the smoke detector or detectors in the
4 dwelling unit. Said individual will insure the detector is opera-
5 tional by testing it periodically, maintain the unit by dusting or
6 vacuuming periodically. If the unit is battery powered, he/she will
7 insure the battery is in place at all times, replacing the battery if
8 needed. If the detector is electrically powered, he/she will maintain
9 an uninterrupted supply of power from the meter supplying the
10 apartment to his apartment, except for outages beyond his/her
11 control. He/she is also charged with reporting any non-working
12 detector to the owner or his representative. The owners, his staff or
13 representatives shall be held harmless should occupant fail to
14 secure, and/or fail to test, and/or maintain the detectors, and or
15 provide power to, or working batteries in the detectors, or to
16 report a defective detector.

The Government of the District

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