

By: West, Van de Putte  
Lucio

S.B. No. 1715

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the requirements for a smoke detector in a multifamily residential unit.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. This bill is enacted to honor the memory of Sephra Burks.

SECTION 2. Section 92.254, Property Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a) A smoke detector must be:

(1) designed to detect both the visible and invisible products of combustion;

(2) designed with an alarm audible to a person in the bedrooms it serves;

(3) powered by battery, alternating current, or other power source as required by local ordinance;

(4) tested and listed for use as a smoke detector by Underwriters Laboratories, Inc., Factory Mutual Research Corporation, or United States Testing Company, Inc.; and

(5) in good working order.

(a-1) If requested by a tenant as an accommodation for a person with a hearing-impairment disability or as required by law as a reasonable accommodation for a person with a hearing-impairment disability, a smoke detector must, in addition

1 to complying with Subsection (a), be capable of alerting a  
2 hearing-impaired person in the bedrooms it serves.

3 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

1                                    COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO. 1

2                    Amend S.B. 1715 (engrossed version), in SECTION 3 of the bill  
3 (page 2, line 3), by striking "September 1, 2009" and substituting  
4 "January 1, 2010".

5 81R28248 PMO-D

Deshotel