

1997 SESSION

SENATE SUBSTITUTE

970992758

SENATE BILL NO. 976

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the Senate Committee on Local Government
on January 28, 1997)

(Patron Prior to Substitute—Senator Whipple)

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding a section numbered 15.1-29.9:1, relating to smoke detectors in certain buildings required by local ordinance.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding a section numbered 15.1-29.9:1 as follows:

§ 15.1-29.9:1. Smoke detectors in certain buildings required by local ordinance.

The governing body of any county, city, or town, notwithstanding any contrary provision of law, general or special, may require, by amending its ordinance adopted pursuant to § 15.1-29.9 or by adopting a separate ordinance pursuant to this section, that any local fire marshal or other appropriate local building code official may require specific types of smoke detectors, including but not limited to AC-powered units with battery backup, to be installed in any (i) building containing one or more dwelling units or (ii) rooming house regularly used, offered for, or intended to be used to provide overnight sleeping accommodations, if he determines that the owner or management of such building or rooming house is either unwilling or unable to maintain working smoke detectors. Smoke detectors installed pursuant to this section shall be installed in conformance with the provisions of the Uniform Statewide Building Code. In enforcing this section, the local fire marshal or other appropriate local building code official shall comply with any and all applicable laws governing the inspection of buildings, structures, properties, and premises.

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