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H.774

Introduced by Representatives Demrow of Corinth, Anthony of Barre City,
Birong of Vergennes, Coffey of Guilford, Graham of
Williamstown, Hooper of Randolph, Hooper of Burlington,
Leffler of Enosburgh, O'Brien of Tunbridge, Page of Newport
City, Savage of Swanton, Seymour of Sutton, Shaw of Pittsford,
Sullivan of Dorset, and Walz of Barre City

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Motor vehicles; motor homes; trailer coaches; fire extinguishers;
smoke detectors; carbon monoxide detectors

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require that
motor homes and trailer coaches contain smoke detectors, carbon monoxide
detectors, and fire extinguishers when sold or exchanged, and to require that
motor homes carry a fire extinguisher, as is already required for trailer
coaches.

An act relating to motor home and trailer coach fire safety

1 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

2 Sec. 1. 23 V.S.A. § 1342 is amended to read:

3 § 1342. FIRE ~~EXTINGUISHER~~ EXTINGUISHERS; SMOKE DETECTORS
4 AND CARBON MONOXIDE DETECTORS

5 ~~There shall be carried on each trailer coach at least one fire extinguisher~~

6 (a) Definitions. As used in this section:

7 (1) “Carbon monoxide detector” has the same meaning as in 9 V.S.A.
8 § 2881(3).

9 (2) “Fire extinguisher” means an active fire protection device used to
10 extinguish or control small fires, often in emergency situations, that is of a type
11 approved by the ~~State Fire Marshal~~ Commissioner of Public Safety, in good
12 usable condition and easily accessible. ~~The extinguisher shall be~~ of not less
13 than five pounds capacity; if it is of a ~~CO₂~~ carbon dioxide type; and not less
14 than two and one-half pounds capacity; if it is of a dry chemical type.

15 (3) “Motor home” has the same meaning as in 32 V.S.A. § 8902(11).

16 (4) “Smoke detector” has the same meaning as in 9 V.S.A. § 2881(2).

17 (5) “Trailer coach” has the same meaning as in subdivision 4(41) of this
18 title.

19 (b) Fire extinguishers. A fire extinguisher shall be easily accessible on all
20 motor homes and trailer coaches.

21 (c) Smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors.

1 (1) Sales or exchanges.

2 (A) Any motor home or trailer coach when transferred by sale or
3 exchange shall contain at least one photoelectric-only type smoke detector and
4 at least one carbon monoxide detector installed in accordance with the
5 manufacturers' instructions.

6 (B) The seller of a motor home or trailer coach, whether the transfer
7 is by sale or exchange, shall certify to the buyer at the closing of the
8 transaction that the motor home or trailer coach is provided with at least one
9 photoelectric-only type smoke detector and at least one carbon monoxide
10 detector in accordance with this subsection. This certification shall be signed
11 and dated by the seller.

12 (C) If the buyer notifies the seller by certified mail within 10 days
13 after the date of conveyance of the motor home or trailer coach that the vehicle
14 lacks at least one photoelectric-only type smoke detector or at least one carbon
15 monoxide detector, or that any detector is not operable, the seller shall comply
16 with this subsection (c) within 10 days after notification.

17 (D) A violation of this subsection (c) shall not create a defect in title.

18 (2) Use of detectors. Nothing in this subsection shall require an owner
19 of a motor home or trailer coach to maintain or use a smoke detector or carbon
20 monoxide detector after installation.

1 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

2 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2020.