

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1793

To encourage States to require the installation of residential carbon monoxide detectors in homes, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 10, 2013

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Mr. CASEY, and Mr. SCHUMER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

A BILL

To encourage States to require the installation of residential carbon monoxide detectors in homes, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Nicholas and Zachary
5 Burt Memorial Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention
6 Act of 2013”.

7 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

8 Congress finds the following:

9 (1) Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas
10 produced by burning any fuel. Exposure to un-

1 healthy levels of carbon monoxide can lead to carbon
2 monoxide poisoning, a serious health condition that
3 could result in death.

4 (2) Unintentional carbon monoxide poisoning
5 from motor vehicles and the abnormal operation of
6 fuel-burning appliances, such as furnaces, water
7 heaters, portable generators, and stoves, in residen-
8 tial homes and other dwelling units kills more than
9 400 people each year and sends more than 20,000
10 to hospital emergency rooms for treatment.

11 (3) Research shows that purchasing and install-
12 ing carbon monoxide alarms close to the sleeping
13 areas in residential homes and other dwelling units
14 can help avoid fatalities.

15 (4) Congress should promote the purchase and
16 installation of carbon monoxide alarms in residential
17 homes and dwelling units nationwide in order to pro-
18 mote the health and public safety of citizens
19 throughout the Nation.

20 **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

21 In this Act:

22 (1) CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM.—The term
23 “carbon monoxide alarm” means a device that—

24 (A) detects carbon monoxide; and

1 (B) is intended to alarm at carbon mon-
2 oxide concentrations below those that could
3 cause a loss of ability to react to the dangers
4 of carbon monoxide exposure.

5 (2) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission”
6 means the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

7 (3) COMPLIANT CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM.—
8 The term “compliant carbon monoxide alarm”
9 means a carbon monoxide alarm that complies with
10 the most current version of—

11 (A) the American National Standard for
12 Single and Multiple Station Carbon Monoxide
13 Alarms (ANSI/UL 2034); and

14 (B) the American National Standard for
15 Gas and Vapor Detectors and Sensors (ANSI/
16 UL 2075).

17 (4) DWELLING UNIT.—The term “dwelling
18 unit” means a room or suite of rooms used for
19 human habitation, and includes a single family resi-
20 dence as well as each living unit of a multiple family
21 residence (including apartment buildings) and each
22 living unit in a mixed use building.

23 (5) FIRE CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS.—
24 The term “fire code enforcement officials” means of-

1 officials of the fire safety code enforcement agency of
2 a State or local government.

3 (6) NFPA 720.—The term “NFPA 720”
4 means—

5 (A) the Standard for the Installation of
6 Carbon Monoxide Detection and Warning
7 Equipment issued by the National Fire Protec-
8 tion Association in 2012; and

9 (B) any amended or similar successor
10 standard pertaining to the proper installation of
11 carbon monoxide alarms in dwelling units.

12 **SEC. 4. GRANT PROGRAM FOR CARBON MONOXIDE POI-**
13 **SONING PREVENTION.**

14 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of ap-
15 propriations authorized under subsection (f), the Commis-
16 sion shall establish a grant program to provide assistance
17 to eligible States and local governments to carry out the
18 carbon monoxide poisoning prevention activities described
19 in subsection (d).

20 (b) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible for a grant under
21 the program, a State or local government shall—

22 (1) demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Com-
23 mission that the State or local government has
24 adopted a statute, or the State or local government
25 agency has adopted a rule, regulation, or similar

1 measure with the force and effect of law, requiring
2 compliant carbon monoxide alarms to be installed in
3 dwelling units in accordance with NFPA 720; and

4 (2) submit an application to the Commission at
5 such time, in such form, and containing such addi-
6 tional information as the Commission may require,
7 which application may be filed on behalf of the State
8 or local government by the fire code enforcement of-
9 ficials for such State or local government.

10 (c) GRANT AMOUNT; PRIORITY.—The Commission
11 shall determine the amount of the grants awarded under
12 this section, and shall give priority to applications from
13 States or local governments that—

14 (1) prioritize the installation of compliant car-
15 bon monoxide alarms in existing dwelling units—

16 (A) within which a fuel-burning appliance
17 is installed, including a furnace, boiler, water
18 heater, fireplace, or any other apparatus, appli-
19 ance, or device that burns fuel; or

20 (B) which has an attached garage;

21 (2) have developed a strategy to protect vulner-
22 able populations such as children, the elderly, or
23 low-income households; and

24 (3) demonstrate greater than average losses of
25 life from carbon monoxide poisoning in the home.

1 (d) USE OF FUNDS.—A State receiving a grant under
2 this section may use grant funds—

3 (1) to purchase and install compliant carbon
4 monoxide alarms in the dwelling units of low-income
5 families or elderly persons, facilities that commonly
6 serve children or the elderly, including childcare fa-
7 cilities, public schools, and senior centers, or student
8 dwelling units owned by public universities;

9 (2) to train State or local fire code enforcement
10 officials in the proper enforcement of State or local
11 laws concerning compliant carbon monoxide alarms
12 and the installation of such alarms in accordance
13 with NFPA 720;

14 (3) for the development and dissemination of
15 training materials, instructors, and any other costs
16 related to the training sessions authorized by this
17 subsection; and

18 (4) to educate the public about the risk associ-
19 ated with carbon monoxide as a poison and the im-
20 portance of proper carbon monoxide alarm use.

21 (e) LIMITATION ON USE OF FUNDS.—

22 (1) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Not more than
23 10 percent of any grant funds received under this
24 section may be used to cover administrative costs

1 not directly related to training described in sub-
2 section (d)(2).

3 (2) PUBLIC OUTREACH.—Not more than 25
4 percent of any grant funds received under this sec-
5 tion may be used to cover costs of activities de-
6 scribed in subsection (d)(4).

7 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be
9 appropriated to the Commission, for each of the fis-
10 cal years 2013 through 2017, \$2,000,000, which
11 shall remain available until expended to carry out
12 this Act.

13 (2) RETENTION OF AMOUNTS.—Any amounts
14 appropriated pursuant to this subsection that re-
15 main unexpended and unobligated on September 30,
16 2016, shall be retained by the Commission and cred-
17 ited to the appropriations account that funds the en-
18 forcement of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15
19 U.S.C. 2051).

20 (g) COMMISSION REPORT.—Not later than 1 year
21 after the last day of each fiscal year for which grants are
22 awarded under this section, the Commission shall submit
23 to Congress a report that evaluates the implementation
24 of the grant program required by this section.

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