



ARIZONA STATE SENATE
Fifty-First Legislature, Second Regular Session

FACT SHEET FOR S.B. 1331

fire; building; life safety; continuation

Purpose

Continues the Department of Fire, Building and Life Safety (Department) for eight years.

Background

The Department was established in 1986 through a merger of the Office of the Fire Marshal and the Office of Manufactured Housing. Arizona law requires the Department to further public safety and welfare by maintaining relevant standards and codes for manufactured housing and fire safety. The Department is comprised of the following three offices and one division.

1. Office of the State Fire Marshal – enforces the state fire code, except in certain cities. This office establishes a regularly scheduled fire safety inspection program for certain buildings in the state and approves construction plans for state, county and public school buildings to ensure compliance of the proposed fire safety systems with the state fire code.
2. Office of Manufactured Housing – regulates the manufactured housing and modular building industries in the state. This office carries out agreements with the federal government to enforce federal standards regarding manufactured homes and randomly inspects modular buildings constructed in Arizona manufacturing plants to ensure they adhere to design requirements. A person or business must obtain a permit from this office prior to installing a manufactured home, mobile home or modular building.
3. Office of Administration – provides the administrative services necessary to operate the Offices of the State Fire Marshal and Manufactured Housing.
4. Compliance Division – supports the Office of Manufactured Housing by licensing manufacturers, dealers, installers and salespersons, and handling related consumer complaints. This division also processes petitions for hearings related to mobile homes, manufactured homes and modular buildings and facilitates hearings regarding Department actions or determinations.

The Senate Public Safety and the House of Representatives Public Safety, Military and Regulatory Affairs Committee of Reference (COR) met on October 23, 2013, to conduct the sunset review of the Department. Currently, the Department is scheduled to terminate on July 1, 2014 (A.R.S § 41-3014.17). The COR recommended that the Legislature continue the Department for eight years.

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The Department's budget for FY 2013 was \$2,516,700 with a year-end fund balance of \$63,600 according to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee.

Provisions

1. Continues, retroactive to July 1, 2014, the Department until July 1, 2022.
2. Repeals the Department on January 1, 2023.
3. Contains a purpose statement.
4. Becomes effective on the general effective date, with a retroactive provision as noted.

Prepared by Senate Research

February 10, 2014

AW/RC/lis