

By the Committee on Comprehensive Planning; and Senator Miller

316-1959-04

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to fire hydrants; requiring
3 owners of private fire hydrants to test
4 hydrants in accordance with national standards,
5 and to contract with licensed professionals or
6 local fire-control authorities to inspect and
7 service such hydrants; authorizing local fire
8 officials to contract with owners of private
9 fire hydrants to maintain such hydrants;
10 providing an effective date.

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12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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14 Section 1. (1) A person who owns a private fire
15 hydrant must ensure that the hydrant is tested in accordance
16 with the provisions of National Fire Protection Association
17 Standard 24, subsection 4-3.6, and that it is inspected and
18 maintained in compliance with the provisions of National Fire
19 Protection Association Standard 25, Standard for the
20 Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire
21 Protection Systems, the edition currently adopted by the State
22 Fire Marshal pursuant to its code-adoption and
23 standards-adoption authority in chapter 633, Florida Statutes.
24 A person who owns a private fire hydrant must produce, upon
25 request of the fire official, a valid and continuing
26 maintenance contract with a plumbing contractor licensed under
27 chapter 489, Florida Statutes, an underground utility
28 contractor licensed under chapter 489, Florida Statutes, or,
29 if the private hydrant is part of a fire suppression system, a
30 fire protection contractor licensed under chapter 633, Florida
31 Statutes.

1 (2) The fire department having jurisdiction over the
2 subject property may enter into a contract with the owner to
3 maintain the fire hydrant as required by the code, if the
4 contract does not violate any other federal law or state or
5 local codes, statutes, or ordinances.

6 (3) A person who violates this section commits a
7 noncriminal violation, punishable by a fine not to exceed \$100
8 for a first offense or \$250 for each subsequent offense.

9 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004.

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11 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
12 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
13 Senate Bill 636

14 The CS differs from the bill as filed in that it clarifies
15 that privately owned hydrants must be tested, rather than
16 re-installed or retrofitted, according to fire code; and
17 authorizes, rather than requires, local fire control
18 authorities to contract for maintenance of privately-owned
19 fire hydrants.
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