Florida Senate - 2007

By Senator Garcia

	40-1228-07 See HB 483
1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to smoke detectors and carbon
3	monoxide detectors; providing legislative
4	intent; providing definitions; specifying
5	approved types of smoke detectors and carbon
6	monoxide detectors; providing requirements for
7	the installation and testing of such detectors;
8	requiring existing and newly constructed
9	residential dwellings and dwelling units to be
10	installed with smoke detectors and carbon
11	monoxide detectors; providing penalties for
12	noncompliance; requiring the Department of
13	Business and Professional Regulation to develop
14	rules; providing severability; providing an
15	effective date.
16	
17	WHEREAS, the general purpose and intent of this act is
18	to provide proper protection regulations in the best interest
19	of the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of this
20	state, and
21	WHEREAS, the specific intent and purpose of this act is
22	to create safety regulations requiring carbon monoxide
23	detectors and smoke detectors after the occurrence of several
24	incidents where people have died as a result of carbon
25	monoxide poisoning under circumstances that were preventable,
26	and
27	WHEREAS, this act is named in memory of Janelle Bertot,
28	a talented and community-oriented 19-year-old college student
29	and daughter of a former Hialeah police officer, who died on
30	November 14, 2004, from carbon monoxide poisoning as a result
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1	of carbon monoxide that leaked from a friend's motor vehicle,
2	and
3	WHEREAS, through the efforts of Janelle's parents and
4	other dedicated volunteers, Janelle's Wishing Well, a
5	charitable foundation, has been established to provide
6	scholarships to young people interested in health care and to
7	raise public awareness and create community outreach programs
8	on the dangers of carbon monoxide poisoning, and
9	WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes and supports the
10	education and prevention efforts of Janelle's Wishing Well to
11	advise young people of the lethal danger of carbon monoxide
12	poisoning, NOW, THEREFORE,
13	
14	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
15	
16	Section 1. (1) SHORT TITLEThis section may be
17	cited as "Janelle's Law."
18	(2) PURPOSEIt is the legislative intent in the
19	adoption of this section to protect the health and welfare of
20	the citizens by requiring the installation of smoke detectors
21	and carbon monoxide detectors in all residential dwellings and
22	dwelling units.
23	(3) DEFINITIONS The following words and phrases
24	shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section,
25	except where the context clearly indicates a different
26	meaning:
27	<u>(a) "Carbon monoxide detector" means a device capable</u>
28	of sensing carbon monoxide, a colorless, odorless gas that is
29	produced as a result of incomplete burning of
30	carbon-containing fuels, which is approved or listed by a
31	recognized independent laboratory and, when activated,

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1 provides an alarm to warn all occupants of the presence of 2 carbon monoxide within a residential dwelling or dwelling 3 <u>unit.</u> 4 (b) "Smoke detector" means a device that includes hush and reset buttons and is capable of sensing visible or 5 6 invisible products of combustion and that is approved or 7 listed by a recognized independent testing laboratory and, 8 when activated, provides an alarm to warn all occupants of the presence of such products within a residential dwelling or 9 10 dwelling unit. (4) APPROVED TYPES OF SMOKE DETECTORS AND CARBON 11 12 MONOXIDE DETECTORS; INSTALLATION AND TESTING .--13 (a) Only smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors that are wired directly or hard-wired to the building's 14 electric supply and not controlled by any switch other than 15 the main electric power supply and equipped with a battery 16 17 backup shall be considered approved types of smoke detectors 18 and carbon monoxide detectors. The smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors shall emit a signal when the batteries are 19 20 low. Wiring shall be permanent and without a disconnecting 21 switch other than as required for over-current protection. 22 (b) Where more than one smoke detector is required to 23 be installed, the smoke detectors shall be interconnected in such a manner that the activation of one smoke detector will 2.4 activate all of the smoke detectors. Where more than one 25 carbon monoxide detector is required to be installed, the 26 27 carbon monoxide detectors shall be interconnected in such a 2.8 manner that the activation of one carbon monoxide detector will activate all of the carbon monoxide detectors. 29 30 (c) The detectors shall be clearly audible in all bedrooms over background noise levels with all intervening 31

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1 doors closed. When the installation of the detecting devices 2 is complete, each detector and interconnecting wiring for multiple-station alarm devices shall be tested according to 3 4 the household warning equipment provisions of the National Fire Protection Association Standard 72, Current Edition. 5 б (5)REQUIREMENTS FOR EXISTING AND NEWLY CONSTRUCTED 7 RESIDENTIAL DWELLINGS AND DWELLING UNITS .--8 (a) For existing residential dwellings and dwelling units that have auxiliary power units or generators, only 9 10 smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors that are wired directly or hard-wired to the building's electric supply and 11 12 not controlled by any switch other than the main electric 13 power supply and equipped with a battery backup shall be considered approved types of smoke detectors and carbon 14 monoxide detectors. The smoke detectors and carbon monoxide 15 16 detectors shall emit a signal when the batteries are low. 17 (b) For all new residential construction, all 18 residential dwelling units contained within each residential dwelling shall be installed with a minimum of one smoke 19 20 detector for each living area and bedroom or sleeping quarter 21 and one additional smoke detector for each floor or story, including basements, but not including crawl spaces and 2.2 23 uninhabitable attics. (c) All new construction of residential dwellings and 2.4 dwelling units described in this section shall comply with the 25 requirements of this section beginning July 1, 2007. 26 27 (d) All existing residential dwellings and dwelling 2.8 units described in this section shall comply with the 29 requirements of this section before July 1, 2009. 30 (6) PENALTIES. -- Failure to comply with the provisions of this section may be punishable by a penalty not to exceed 31

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1 \$500. Each violation and each day upon which any such violation occurs shall constitute a separate offense. (7) RULES. -- The Department of Business and Professional Regulation shall develop rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54, Florida Statutes, for the implementation of this section. б (8) SEVERABILITY. -- If any provision of this section or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of the section which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this section are severable. Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007. 2.4

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