

Union Calendar No. 124

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1751

[Report No. 112-191]

To amend the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 to require that weather radios be installed in all manufactured homes manufactured or sold in the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 5, 2011

Mr. BACHUS (for himself, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, and Mr. CLAY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

AUGUST 1, 2011

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union
and ordered to be printed

A BILL

To amend the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 to require that weather radios be installed in all manufactured homes manufactured or sold in the United States.

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 “CJ’s Home Protection
5 Act of 2011”.

6 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds that—

8 (1) nearly 20,000,000 Americans live in manu-
9 factured homes, which often provide a more acces-
10 sible and affordable way for many families to buy
11 their own homes;

12 (2) manufactured housing plays a vital role in
13 providing housing for low- and moderate-income
14 families in the United States;

15 (3) NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) is a nation-
16 wide network of radio stations broadcasting contin-
17 uous weather information directly from a nearby Na-
18 tional Weather Service (NWS) office, and broadcasts
19 NWS warnings, watches, forecasts, and other all-
20 hazard information 24 hours a day;

21 (4) the operators of manufactured housing com-
22 munities should be encouraged to provide a safe
23 place of shelter for community residents or a plan
24 for the evacuation of community residents to a safe
25 place of shelter within a reasonable distance of the

1 community for use by community residents in times
2 of severe weather, including tornados and high
3 winds, and local municipalities should be encouraged
4 to require approval of these plans; and

5 (5) weather radio manufacturers should include,
6 in the packaging of weather radios, a written re-
7 minder to replace the batteries twice each year and
8 written instructions on how to do so.

9 **SEC. 3. FEDERAL MANUFACTURED HOME CONSTRUCTION**
10 **AND SAFETY STANDARD.**

11 Section 604 of the National Manufactured Housing
12 Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 (42
13 U.S.C. 5403) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
14 lowing new subsection:

15 “(i) WEATHER RADIOS.—

16 “(1) CONSTRUCTION AND SAFETY STAND-
17 ARD.—The Federal manufactured home construction
18 and safety standards established by the Secretary
19 under this section shall require that each manufac-
20 tured home delivered for sale shall be supplied with
21 a weather radio inside the manufactured home
22 that—

23 “(A) is capable of broadcasting emergency
24 information relating to local weather conditions;

25 “(B) is equipped with a tone alarm;

1 “(C) is equipped with Specific Alert Mes-
2 sage Encoding, or SAME technology; and

3 “(D) complies with Consumer Electronics
4 Association (CEA) Standard 2009–A (or cur-
5 rent revision thereof) Performance Specification
6 for Public Alert Receivers.

7 “(2) LIABILITY PROTECTIONS.—No aspect of
8 the function, operation, performance, capabilities, or
9 utilization of the weather radio required under this
10 subsection, or any instructions related thereto, shall
11 be subject to the requirements of sections 613 or
12 615 or any regulations promulgated by the Secretary
13 pursuant to the authority under such sections.”.

14 **SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT.**

15 Not later than the expiration of the 90-day period
16 beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the
17 consensus committee established pursuant to section
18 604(a)(3) of the National Manufactured Housing Con-
19 struction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C.
20 5304(a)(3)) shall develop and submit to the Secretary of
21 Housing and Urban Development a proposed Federal
22 manufactured home construction and safety standard re-
23 quired under section 604(i) of such Act (as added by the
24 amendment made by section 3 of this Act). Notwith-
25 standing section 604(a)(5)(B) of such Act, the Secretary

1 of Housing and Urban Development shall issue a final
2 order promulgating the standard required by such section
3 604(i) not later than the expiration of the 90-day period
4 beginning upon receipt by the Secretary of the proposed
5 standard developed and submitted by the consensus com-
6 mittee.

7 **SEC. 5. STUDY.**

8 The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development
9 shall conduct a study regarding conditioning the applica-
10 bility of the requirement under the amendment made by
11 section 3 of this Act (relating to supplying weather radios
12 in manufactured homes) on the geographic location at
13 which a manufactured home is placed, but only to the ex-
14 tent that such requirement applies to new manufactured
15 homes and new site-built homes. In conducting such study
16 and making determinations under the study, the Secretary
17 shall take into consideration severe weather conditions,
18 such as high winds and flooding, and wind zones and other
19 severe weather data available from the National Weather
20 Service. Not later than the expiration of the 18-month pe-
21 riod beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act,
22 the Secretary shall complete the study and submit a report
23 regarding the results of the study to the Committee on
24 Financial Services of the House of Representatives and

- 1 to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Af-
- 2 fairs of the Senate.

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