

**Fifty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota  
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 4, 2005**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1350  
(Representatives Maragos, D. Johnson)  
(Senators Heitkamp, Nelson)

AN ACT to amend and reenact section 23-13-15 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to rentals to deaf persons.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

**SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 23-13-15 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

**23-13-15. Smoke detection systems for residential rental property - Penalty.**

1. All residential rental property with the exception of property covered by section 23-09-02.1 must be equipped with smoke detection systems or other approved alarm systems for the protection of occupants of the property. Systems must be installed and maintained in compliance with applicable national fire protection standards as defined by rules adopted by the state fire marshal. The state fire marshal and local fire departments shall provide information concerning the installation of smoke detection systems to owners of residential rental properties. A system installed in a single-family rental dwelling must be maintained and inspected by the tenant occupying the single-family rental dwelling. In other dwellings, the landlord is responsible for installation and ensuring the proper operation of the system upon the occupancy of each new tenant. The tenant is responsible for maintaining the system during the tenant's occupancy.
2. The landlord of a residential dwelling unit shall provide an approved visual smoke detection system or other visual alarm system for fire if requested in writing by a tenant who is deaf. A landlord is not subject to this subsection if the rental property of that landlord does not exceed one building and that building does not exceed four residential dwelling units.
3. Nothing in this section may be construed to alter the provisions of chapter 54-21.3 regarding smoke detection systems or alarm systems for newly constructed residences.
- ~~3.~~ 4. Any property owner who willfully fails to install a system as required by this section is guilty of a class B misdemeanor.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Fifty-ninth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1350.

House Vote:      Yeas    56      Nays    35      Absent    3

Senate Vote:    Yeas    47      Nays    0      Absent    0

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 2005.

Approved at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 2005.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

Filed in this office this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2005,

at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State