This Document can be made available
in alternative formats upon request

State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FOURTH SESSION

H. F. No. 3787

02/26/2026 Authored by Huot
The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Public Safety Finance and Policy

A bill for an act

relating to the State Fire Code; requiring sealed batteries and national testing standards for smoke alarms in certain dwelling units; proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 299F.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. **[299F.363] SMOKE ALARM BATTERY REQUIREMENTS.**

Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** (a) For purposes of this section the following terms have the meanings given.

(b) "Dwelling unit" means a single unit providing complete, independent living facilities for one or more persons, including permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking, and sanitation. Dwelling unit includes only Group R-2 and R-3 occupancies as defined in the State Building Code and does not include:

(1) hotels, motels, or other transient lodging;

(2) commercial buildings;

(3) smoke detection systems that are part of a fire alarm system with a control panel; or

(4) other occupancies not classified as residential dwelling units.

(c) "Sealed battery" means a nonremovable, nonreplaceable battery that powers a smoke alarm for ten years.

(d) "Smoke alarm" has the meaning given in the State Fire Code.

Subd. 2. **Sealed battery requirement.** (a) Effective August 1, 2027, when a smoke alarm in a dwelling unit is replaced, the replacement smoke alarm must be:

(1) equipped with a sealed battery if the smoke alarm contains a battery as a primary or backup power source; and

(2) tested and listed by a nationally recognized testing laboratory for the smoke alarm's specified purpose to standards published on or after October 1, 2022.

(b) This requirement applies when smoke alarms are replaced for any reason, including when they exceed ten years from the date of manufacture as required by the State Fire Code.

Subd. 3. **Enforcement.** Any violation of this section is a violation of the State Fire Code and is subject to the penalty and enforcement mechanism specified in section 299F.011, subdivision 6.