

CHAPTER 299G

PROTECTION OF BUILDINGS AND OCCUPANTS

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299G.01 CLASSIFICATION OF BUILDINGS. For the purposes of this chapter, buildings shall be classified as follows:

- (1) Hotels and other structures two stories high, with ten or more sleeping rooms, where sleeping accommodations are furnished to the public;
- (2) Such hotels and structures more than two stories high;
- (3) Tenements, flat buildings, and boarding houses more than two stories high accommodating more than 20 persons, whether in one family or more; an attic or mansard-roof floor when used for sleeping to be counted as a story;
- (4) Buildings used as theaters or public halls and having a seating capacity of over 300;
- (5) Public school buildings and seminary, academy, and college buildings more than two stories high;
- (6) Hospitals and asylums two or more stories high; and
- (7) Prisons, reformatories, workhouses, jails, and other places of penal confinement.

[R L s 2365] (5895)

299G.02 REQUIREMENTS FOR CLASS ONE. For each 2,500 feet of area, or fractional part thereof, covered by a building in class one there shall be provided an efficient chemical fire-extinguisher conveniently located in a public hallway outside of the sleeping rooms and always in condition for use, or a one and one-fourth inch inside stand-pipe, with hose connection, and hose of sufficient length always attached in such hallway, which stand-pipe shall be supplied by a sufficient pressure of water.

[R L s 2366] (5896)

299G.03 CLASS TWO. Each 6,000 feet of area, or fractional part thereof, covered by a building in class two, shall be provided with a one and three-fourths inch inside stand-pipe, and sufficient one and one-fourth inch hose connected therewith on each floor, and constantly furnished with sufficient water pressure from waterworks or pump which can be put into instant action; or for each such area there shall be a two and one-half inch metallic stand-pipe, with metallic ladder attached above the first story, located upon the outside of the wall, extending above the roof, and so situated as to be accessible from the roof, and from each story above the first, with valves and male hose connections at every story and on the roof, and female hose connection at base of the pipe, of such size and pattern as to allow connection with the equipment of the local fire department. There shall be provided for each 8,500 feet of such area, or fractional part thereof, at least one efficient chemical fire extinguisher on each floor containing sleeping apartments. If for lack of waterworks or steam to operate pumps the inside stand-pipe be not practicable, then in addition to the fire-extinguishers there shall be placed in the hallway, on each floor containing sleeping apartments, one barrel of water and two pails, labeled "For fire purposes only," for each 2,500 feet of area, or fraction thereof, on such floor. A red light shall be kept burning all night at the head of each stairway above the first floor and at or near each approach to a stationary fire escape. In each sleeping room above the first floor the following printed notice shall be conspicuously posted: "Exit in case of fire. Upon leaving this room, turn to the (here insert 'right' or

'left') and by passing (here insert distance in feet) you will reach a red light which indicates (here insert 'fire escape' or 'stairway')."

[*R L s 2367*] (5897)

299G.05 CLASS FOUR. Each building in class four shall be provided with a stand-pipe running to the stage, and with hose always connected, and of length to reach all parts of the stage; also with an efficient chemical fire-extinguisher properly located to protect scenery. If for lack of constant water pressure the stand-pipe should be impracticable, the stage shall be provided with two such extinguishers, and at least one barrel of water, with two pails, labeled "For fire purposes only." The foregoing provisions of this section shall not apply to halls where neither curtains nor scenery are used, but all buildings in class four shall have exits, non-combustible stairways, ladders, fire escapes, and other means of fire protection in such number and of such character and size as may be determined from time to time by the proper local authorities.

[*R L s 2369*] (5899)

299G.06 CLASSES FIVE AND SIX. Buildings in classes five and six shall be provided when practicable with an inside or outside stand-pipe, as required for those in class two. A chemical fire-extinguisher shall be provided on each floor above the first and there shall be exits, non-combustible stairways, and ladders and fire escapes in such number and of such character and size as may be determined from time to time by the proper local authorities.

[*R L s 2370*] (5900)

299G.07 CLASS SEVEN. Each building in class seven that is not built of stone, brick, or iron, with non-combustible partitions and roof practically fireproof, shall have a stand-pipe and sufficient hose, connected on each floor with constant water pressure, or an efficient chemical fire-extinguisher on each floor.

[*R L s 2371*] (5901)

299G.08 ENFORCEMENT; PENALTIES. The proprietor and lessee of every building in any of the classes hereinbefore mentioned shall equip the same in the manner prescribed and every failure so to do shall constitute a misdemeanor. Every fire warden, marshal, chief of fire department, chief of police and building inspector of an incorporated place, or, where no such officer exists, the town and county boards, shall enforce the provisions of this chapter. Every person who shall fail to comply with any such provision within 30 days after written notice so to do from any such officer shall be guilty of a gross misdemeanor. All fines collected hereunder shall be turned into the school fund of the county in which the conviction occurs.

[*R L s 2372*] (5902)

299G.10 DOORS OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS TO SWING OUTWARD. The doors of all theaters, amphitheaters, opera houses, public halls, dance halls, saloons, taverns, public and private clubs, churches, schools, or places used for public entertainments, exhibitions, or meetings, which are used exclusively or in part for admission to, or egress from, the same, shall be so hung and arranged as to open outwardly and, during any exhibition, entertainment or meeting held therein, shall be kept unlocked and unfastened, and in such condition that, in case of danger or necessity, immediate escape from such building shall not be prevented or delayed. Every owner, agent, or lessee of any such building who shall rent the same or allow it to be used for any of the aforesaid public purposes, without having the doors thereof hung and arranged as hereinbefore provided, shall for each violation of any provision of this section be guilty of a misdemeanor and be punished by a fine of not less than \$25 nor more than \$100 and in default of payment of fine and cost shall be confined in the county jail for not less than 15 nor more than 60 days.

[*R L s 5179; 1947 c 23 s 1*] (10508)

299G.11 DOORS AND SIDE LIGHTS OF PUBLIC BUILDINGS TO BE MARKED. If doors or side lights of a public building, whether privately or publicly owned, are constructed with clear glass, markings shall be placed on such clear glass or the clear glass shall be manufactured with markings. Side lights are defined as the clear glass panels not less than 15 inches wide immediately adjacent to the door.

[1967 c 174 s 1]

299G.12 SYMBOL INDICATING WHEELCHAIR ACCESS. Subdivision 1. **Statement of policy and purpose.** The legislature finds that there is an urgent

need to adopt an internationally accepted symbol to indicate buildings and facilities which are accessible to and usable by persons in wheelchairs, that a wheelchair symbol has been adopted by Rehabilitation International's Eleventh World Congress, and that this symbol is universally recognized by the wheelchair user.

Subd. 2. **Adoption of symbol.** The symbol adopted by Rehabilitation International's Eleventh World Congress shall be the state symbol indicating buildings and facilities accessible to and usable by persons in wheelchairs. In the interests of uniformity, it shall be the sole symbol for display in or on all public or private buildings and facilities which qualify for its use as determined by the governor's commission on employment of handicapped persons or its duly appointed representative. The secretary of state shall obtain and keep on file the symbol.

[1973 c 86 s 1]

SAFETY GLAZING

299G.13 SAFETY GLAZING, DEFINITIONS. Subdivision 1. As used in sections 299G.13 to 299G.18, the following words and phrases have the meaning here given them.

Subd. 2. "Safety glazing material" means any glazing material, such as tempered glass, laminated glass, wire glass or rigid plastic, which meets the test requirements of the American National Standards Institute Standard Z-97.1-1972, and which is so constructed, treated, or combined with other materials as to minimize the likelihood of cutting and piercing injuries resulting from human contact with the glazing material.

Subd. 3. "Hazardous locations" means those structural elements, glazed or to be glazed, in residential buildings and other structures used as dwellings, commercial buildings, industrial buildings, and public buildings, known as interior and exterior commercial entrance and exit doors, and the immediately adjacent flat fixed glazed panels, sliding glass door units including the fixed glazed panels which are part of such units, storm or combination doors, shower and bathtub enclosures, primary residential entrance and exit doors and the fixed or operable adjacent sidelites, whether or not the glazing in such doors, panels and enclosures is transparent.

Subd. 4. "Residential buildings" means buildings such as homes and apartments used as dwellings for one or more families or persons.

Subd. 5. "Other structures used as dwellings" means buildings such as mobile homes, manufactured or industrialized housing and lodging homes.

Subd. 6. "Commercial buildings" means buildings such as wholesale and retail stores and storerooms, and office buildings.

Subd. 7. "Industrial buildings" means buildings such as factories.

Subd. 8. "Public buildings" means buildings such as hotels, hospitals, motels, dormitories, sanitariums, nursing homes, theaters, stadiums, gymnasiums, amusement park buildings, schools and other buildings used for educational purposes, museums, restaurants, bars, correctional institutions, places of worship and other buildings of public assembly.

Subd. 9. "Commercial entrance and exit door" means a hinged, pivoting, revolving or sliding door which is glazed or to be glazed and used alone or in combination with doors, other than those described in subdivision 11, on interior or exterior walls of a commercial, public or industrial building as a means of passage, ingress or egress.

Subd. 10. "Fixed flat glazed panels immediately adjacent to entrance or exit doors" means the first fixed flat glazed panel on either or both sides of interior or exterior doors, 48 inches or less in width, the nearest vertical edge of which is located within six feet horizontally of the nearest vertical edge of the door.

Subd. 11. "Sliding glass door units" means an assembly of glazed or to be glazed panels contained in an overall frame, installed in residential buildings and other structures used as dwellings, commercial, industrial or public buildings, and so designed that one or more of the panels is movable in a horizontal direction to produce or close off an opening for use as a means of passage, ingress or egress.

Subd. 12. "Storm or combination door" means a door which is glazed or to be glazed, and used in tandem with a primary residential or commercial entrance and exit door to protect the primary residential or commercial entrance or exit door against weather elements and to improve indoor climate control.

Subd. 13. "Shower enclosure" or "bathtub enclosure" means a hinged, pivoting, or sliding door and fixed panels which are glazed or to be glazed and used to form a barrier between the shower stall or bathtub and the rest of the room area.

Subd. 14. "Primary residential entrance and exit door" means a door, other than that described in subdivision 11, which is glazed or to be glazed and used in an exterior wall of a residential building and other structures used as dwellings, as a means of ingress or egress.

Subd. 15. "Glazing" means the act of installing and securing glass or other glazing material into prepared openings in structural elements such as doors, enclosures, and panels.

Subd. 16. "Glazed" means the accomplished act of glazing.

[1974 c 53 s 1]

299G.14 LABELING REQUIRED. Subdivision 1. Each lite of safety glazing material manufactured, distributed, imported, or sold for use in hazardous locations, or installed in such a location within this state shall be permanently labeled by such means as etching, sandblasting, firing of ceramic material, hot-die stamping, transparent pressure sensitive labels, or by other suitable means. The label shall identify the seller, manufacturer, fabricator, or installer, the nominal thickness and the type of safety glazing material, and the fact that said material meets the test requirements of the American National Standards Institute Standard Z-97.1-1972.

The label must be legible and visible after installation.

Subd. 2. Such safety glazing labeling shall not be used on other than safety glazing materials.

[1974 c 53 s 2]

299G.15 SAFETY GLAZING MATERIALS REQUIRED. It shall be unlawful to knowingly install, cause to be installed or consent to the installation of glazing materials other than safety glazing materials in any hazardous location in this state.

[1974 c 53 s 3]

299G.16 EMPLOYEES NOT COVERED. No liability shall be created under sections 299G.13 to 299G.15 as to workmen who are employees of a material supplier, contractor, subcontractor, or other employer responsible for compliance with the provisions herein.

[1974 c 53 s 4]

299G.17 PENALTY. Whoever violates the provisions of sections 299G.13 to 299G.15 is guilty of a misdemeanor.

[1974 c 53 s 5]

299G.18 LOCAL ORDINANCES. The provisions of sections 299G.13 to 299G.18 shall supersede any local, municipal or county ordinance or parts thereof relating to the subject matter hereof.

[1974 c 53 s 6]