

CHAPTER 207  
HB 278 – FINAL VERSION

13Mar2013... 0790h  
05/23/13 1622s

2013 SESSION

13-0677  
03/10

HOUSE BILL           **278**

AN ACT               relative to voluntary installation of fire suppression sprinklers.

SPONSORS:           Rep. John Hunt, Ches 11

COMMITTEE:         Commerce and Consumer Affairs

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ANALYSIS

This bill authorizes an applicant to offer installation of fire suppression sprinklers as a condition of local permit approval.

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Explanation:       Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics***.  
                          Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struck through.~~]  
                          Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

*In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Thirteen*

AN ACT relative to voluntary installation of fire suppression sprinklers.

*Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:*

1 207:1 Subdivision of Land; Sprinklers. Amend RSA 674:36, IV to read as follows:

2 IV. The planning board shall not require, or adopt any regulation requiring, the installation  
3 of a fire suppression sprinkler system in proposed one- or 2-family residences as a condition of  
4 approval for a local permit. Nothing in this paragraph shall prohibit a duly adopted regulation  
5 mandating a cistern, dry hydrant, fire pond, or other credible water source other than a fire  
6 suppression sprinkler system. ***Nothing in this paragraph shall prevent an applicant from  
7 offering to install fire suppression sprinkler systems in proposed one- or 2-family  
8 residences and, if the planning board accepts such offer, the installation of such systems  
9 shall be required and shall be enforceable as a condition of the approval. The applicant or  
10 the applicant's successor in interest may substitute another means of fire protection in lieu  
11 of the approved fire suppression sprinkler system provided that the planning board  
12 approves the substitution which approval shall not be unreasonably upheld or delayed.***

13 207:2 Building Code; Sprinklers. Amend RSA 674:51, V to read as follows:

14 V. No municipality or local land use board as defined in RSA 672:7 shall adopt any  
15 ordinance, regulation, code, or administrative practice requiring the installation of automatic fire  
16 suppression sprinklers in any new or existing detached one- or 2-family dwelling unit in a structure  
17 used only for residential purposes. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, no  
18 municipality or local land use board shall enforce any existing ordinance, regulation, code, or  
19 administrative practice requiring the installation or use of automatic fire suppression sprinklers in  
20 any manufactured housing unit as defined in RSA 674:31 situated in a manufactured housing park  
21 as defined in RSA 205-A:1, II. ***Nothing in this paragraph shall affect the ability of an  
22 applicant for a local land use permit to include the installation of fire suppression  
23 sprinklers pursuant to RSA 674:36, IV, or affect the validity or enforceability of such  
24 inclusion.***

25 207:3 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.

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27 Approved: July 10, 2013

28 Effective Date: September 8, 2013