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SENATE MEMORIAL 27

51ST LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 2014

INTRODUCED BY

Michael S. Sanchez

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO
STUDY AND MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING THE INSPECTION,
TESTING AND MAINTENANCE OF FIRE DAMPERS, SMOKE DAMPERS AND
SMOKE CONTROL SYSTEMS.

WHEREAS, fire dampers, smoke dampers and smoke control
systems that are not properly inspected and maintained present
a risk to the health and safety of the residents of New Mexico;
and

WHEREAS, faulty and inoperable fire dampers, smoke dampers
and smoke control systems are likely to exist in New Mexico
without periodic inspection and testing as required by law and
applicable industry codes and standards; and

WHEREAS, fire dampers, smoke dampers and smoke control
systems are installed and maintained in the ductwork of the

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1 heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems of buildings
2 throughout New Mexico in accordance with applicable state and
3 local laws and industry codes and standards; and

4 WHEREAS, fire dampers, smoke dampers and smoke control
5 systems impede the spread of fire and smoke to areas beyond the
6 origin of a fire; and

7 WHEREAS, the New Mexico Commercial Building Code has
8 adopted and incorporated by reference the International Fire
9 Code; and

10 WHEREAS, the International Fire Code requires that fire
11 dampers, smoke dampers and smoke control systems be installed,
12 inspected, tested and maintained in accordance with the
13 national fire protection association standards;

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE
15 OF NEW MEXICO that the state fire marshal be requested to
16 convene a working group to study, evaluate and make
17 recommendations concerning the inspection requirements
18 applicable to fire dampers, smoke dampers and smoke control
19 systems; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group study,
21 evaluate and make recommendations regarding particularized
22 requirements for the inspection, testing and maintenance of
23 fire dampers, smoke dampers and smoke control systems in
24 facilities that house occupants who require evacuation
25 assistance; and

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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group study,
2 evaluate and make recommendations concerning the certification
3 of contractors who perform inspection, testing and maintenance
4 of fire dampers, smoke dampers and smoke control systems; and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group include
6 representatives from local fire departments, hospitals,
7 assisted living facilities, the fire insurance industry, the
8 corrections department, the office of the state fire marshal
9 and contractors involved with the inspection, testing and
10 maintenance of fire dampers, smoke dampers and smoke control
11 systems; and

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
13 transmitted to the office of the state fire marshal, the
14 corrections department, the New Mexico center for assisted
15 living, the New Mexico state fire fighters' association, the
16 New Mexico fire chiefs association, the New Mexico professional
17 fire fighters association, the New Mexico hospital association
18 and the sheet metal workers local union 49.