

115TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4283

To encourage States to require the installation of residential carbon monoxide detectors in homes, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NOVEMBER 7, 2017

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire (for herself and Mr. LANCE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committee on House Administration, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

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## A BILL

To encourage States to require the installation of residential carbon monoxide detectors in homes, and for other purposes.

1        *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2        *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3        **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4        This Act may be cited as the “Nicholas and Zachary  
5        Burt Memorial Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention  
6        Act of 2017”.

7        **SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

8        (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

1           (1) Carbon monoxide is a colorless, odorless gas  
2           produced by burning any fuel. Exposure to un-  
3           healthy levels of carbon monoxide can lead to carbon  
4           monoxide poisoning, a serious health condition that  
5           could result in death.

6           (2) Unintentional carbon monoxide poisoning  
7           from motor vehicles and the abnormal operation of  
8           fuel-burning appliances, such as furnaces, water  
9           heaters, portable generators, and stoves, kills more  
10          than 400 people each year and sends more than  
11          15,000 to hospital emergency rooms for treatment.

12          (3) Research shows that purchasing and install-  
13          ing carbon monoxide alarms close to the sleeping  
14          areas in residential homes and other dwelling units  
15          can help avoid fatalities.

16          (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
17          gress that Congress should promote the purchase and in-  
18          stallation of carbon monoxide alarms in residential homes  
19          and dwelling units nationwide in order to promote the  
20          health and public safety of citizens throughout the United  
21          States.

22          **SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS.**

23          In this Act:

1           (1) CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM.—The term  
2 “carbon monoxide alarm” means a device or system  
3 that—

4                   (A) detects carbon monoxide; and

5                   (B) is intended to alarm at carbon mon-  
6 oxide concentrations below those that could  
7 cause a loss of ability to react to the dangers  
8 of carbon monoxide exposure.

9           (2) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission”  
10 means the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

11           (3) COMPLIANT CARBON MONOXIDE ALARM.—  
12 The term “compliant carbon monoxide alarm”  
13 means a carbon monoxide alarm that complies with  
14 the most current version of—

15                   (A) the American National Standard for  
16 Single and Multiple Station Carbon Monoxide  
17 Alarms (ANSI/UL 2034); or

18                   (B) the American National Standard for  
19 Gas and Vapor Detectors and Sensors (ANSI/  
20 UL 2075).

21           (4) DWELLING UNIT.—The term “dwelling  
22 unit” means a room or suite of rooms used for  
23 human habitation, and includes a single family resi-  
24 dence as well as each living unit of a multiple family

1 residence (including apartment buildings) and each  
2 living unit in a mixed use building.

3 (5) FIRE CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS.—

4 The term “fire code enforcement officials” means of-  
5 ficials of the fire safety code enforcement agency of  
6 a State or local government.

7 (6) NFPA 720.—The term “NFPA 720”  
8 means—

9 (A) the Standard for the Installation of  
10 Carbon Monoxide Detection and Warning  
11 Equipment issued by the National Fire Protec-  
12 tion Association in 2015; and

13 (B) any amended or similar successor  
14 standard pertaining to the proper installation of  
15 carbon monoxide alarms in dwelling units.

16 (7) STATE.—The term “State” has the mean-  
17 ing given such term in section 3 of the Consumer  
18 Product Safety Act (15 U.S.C. 2052) and includes  
19 the Northern Mariana Islands and any political sub-  
20 division of a State.

21 **SEC. 4. GRANT PROGRAM FOR CARBON MONOXIDE POI-**  
22 **SONING PREVENTION.**

23 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of ap-  
24 propriations authorized under subsection (f), the Commis-  
25 sion shall establish a grant program to provide assistance

1 to eligible States to carry out the carbon monoxide poi-  
2 soning prevention activities described in subsection (e).

3 (b) ELIGIBILITY.—For purposes of this section, an  
4 eligible State is any State that—

5 (1) demonstrates to the satisfaction of the  
6 Commission that the State has adopted a statute or  
7 a rule, regulation, or similar measure with the force  
8 and effect of law, requiring compliant carbon mon-  
9 oxide alarms to be installed in dwelling units in ac-  
10 cordance with NFPA 720; and

11 (2) submits an application to the Commission  
12 at such time, in such form, and containing such ad-  
13 ditional information as the Commission may require,  
14 which application may be filed on behalf of the State  
15 by the fire code enforcement officials for such State.

16 (c) GRANT AMOUNT.—The Commission shall deter-  
17 mine the amount of the grants awarded under this section.

18 (d) SELECTION OF GRANT RECIPIENTS.—In select-  
19 ing eligible States for the award of grants under this sec-  
20 tion, the Commission shall give favorable consideration to  
21 an eligible State that—

22 (1) requires the installation of compliant carbon  
23 monoxide alarms in new or existing educational fa-  
24 cilities, childcare facilities, health care facilities,  
25 adult dependent care facilities, government build-

1 ings, restaurants, theaters, lodging establishments,  
2 or dwelling units—

3 (A) within which a fuel-burning appliance  
4 is installed, including a furnace, boiler, water  
5 heater, fireplace, or any other apparatus, appli-  
6 ance, or device that burns fuel; or

7 (B) which has an attached garage; and

8 (2) has developed a strategy to protect vulner-  
9 able populations such as children, the elderly, or  
10 low-income households.

11 (e) USE OF GRANT FUNDS.—

12 (1) IN GENERAL.—An eligible State receiving a  
13 grant under this section may use such grant—

14 (A) to purchase and install compliant car-  
15 bon monoxide alarms in the dwelling units of  
16 low-income families or elderly persons, facilities  
17 that commonly serve children or the elderly, in-  
18 cluding childcare facilities, public schools, and  
19 senior centers, or student dwelling units owned  
20 by public universities;

21 (B) to train State or local fire code en-  
22 forcement officials in the proper enforcement of  
23 State or local laws concerning compliant carbon  
24 monoxide alarms and the installation of such  
25 alarms in accordance with NFPA 720;

1 (C) for the development and dissemination  
2 of training materials, instructors, and any other  
3 costs related to the training sessions authorized  
4 by this subsection; and

5 (D) to educate the public about the risk  
6 associated with carbon monoxide as a poison  
7 and the importance of proper carbon monoxide  
8 alarm use.

9 (2) LIMITATIONS.—

10 (A) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Not more  
11 than 10 percent of any grant amount received  
12 under this section may be used to cover admin-  
13 istrative costs not directly related to training  
14 described in paragraph (1)(B).

15 (B) PUBLIC OUTREACH.—Not more than  
16 25 percent of any grant amount received under  
17 this section may be used to cover costs of activi-  
18 ties described in paragraph (1)(D).

19 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Subject to paragraph (2),  
21 there is authorized to be appropriated to the Com-  
22 mission, for each of the fiscal years 2018 through  
23 2022, \$2,000,000, which shall remain available until  
24 expended to carry out this Act.

1           (2) LIMITATION ON ADMINISTRATIVE EX-  
2 PENSES.—Not more than 10 percent of the amounts  
3 appropriated or otherwise made available to carry  
4 out this section may be used for administrative ex-  
5 penses.

6           (3) RETENTION OF AMOUNTS.—Any amounts  
7 appropriated pursuant to this subsection that re-  
8 main unexpended and unobligated on September 30,  
9 2022, shall be retained by the Commission and cred-  
10 ited to the appropriations account that funds the en-  
11 forcement of the Consumer Product Safety Act (15  
12 U.S.C. 2051).

13           (4) OFFSET.—There is authorized to be appro-  
14 priated to the Government Publishing Office for  
15 each of fiscal years 2018 through 2022 the amount  
16 that is \$2,000,000 less than the amount appro-  
17 priated for such Office for fiscal year 2017.

18           (g) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the last  
19 day of each fiscal year for which grants are awarded under  
20 this section, the Commission shall submit to Congress a  
21 report that evaluates the implementation of the grant pro-  
22 gram required by this section.

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