

HCS HB 2269 -- SAFETY STANDARDS

SPONSOR: Taylor (48)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Crime and Public Safety by a vote of 11 to 3.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 2269.

This bill requires the Division of Fire Safety within the Department of Public Safety to, by rule, no later than July 1, 2027, adopt Missouri fire and life safety standards establishing certain minimum requirements for fire safety. Certain aspects can be incorporated by reference, and some Missouri-specific modifications can be adopted by the Division. The Division must review the fire and life safety standards at least every five years and can update the standards by rule if necessary.

Starting January 1, 2028, the fire and life safety standards will apply to state-inspected facilities under the conditions specified in the bill, and compliance will be verified by the Division by inspection. State-inspected facilities existing prior to August 28, 2026, will not be required to comply with the standards. Cities, counties, and fire protection districts are not prohibited from adopting more stringent standards.

This bill repeals the appointment experience requirements for deputy boiler inspectors.

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill strips out requirements as defined currently for the training and the ability to hire boiler inspectors. There is a struggle to hire inspectors due to definitions. State regulations will define boiler inspectors. They would like to develop a way to get inspectors to the proper level of training more quickly by trying to make the rules apply, not the statute. This is why lifting this out of statute and putting it in the rules will better capture the national standard.

Testifying in person for the bill were Representative Taylor; Arnie Dienoff; J. Tim Bean, Division of Fire Safety; and United WE.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony and witnesses testifying online can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.