

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1751

To amend the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 to require that weather radios be installed in all manufactured homes manufactured or sold in the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 5, 2011

Mr. BACHUS (for himself, Ms. SEWELL, Mr. ROGERS of Alabama, Mr. AL GREEN of Texas, and Mr. CLAY) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

A BILL

To amend the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 to require that weather radios be installed in all manufactured homes manufactured or sold in the United States.

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 “CJ’s Home Protection
5 Act of 2011”.

6 **SEC. 2. CONGRESSIONAL FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds that—

1 (1) nearly 20,000,000 Americans live in manu-
2 factured homes, which often provide a more acces-
3 sible and affordable way for many families to buy
4 their own homes;

5 (2) manufactured housing plays a vital role in
6 providing housing for low- and moderate-income
7 families in the United States;

8 (3) NOAA Weather Radio (NWR) is a nation-
9 wide network of radio stations broadcasting contin-
10 uous weather information directly from a nearby Na-
11 tional Weather Service (NWS) office, and broadcasts
12 NWS warnings, watches, forecasts, and other all-
13 hazard information 24 hours a day;

14 (4) the operators of manufactured housing com-
15 munities should be encouraged to provide a safe
16 place of shelter for community residents or a plan
17 for the evacuation of community residents to a safe
18 place of shelter within a reasonable distance of the
19 community for use by community residents in times
20 of severe weather, including tornados and high
21 winds, and local municipalities should be encouraged
22 to require approval of these plans; and

23 (5) weather radio manufacturers should include,
24 in the packaging of weather radios, a written re-

1 minder to replace the batteries twice each year and
2 written instructions on how to do so.

3 **SEC. 3. FEDERAL MANUFACTURED HOME CONSTRUCTION**
4 **AND SAFETY STANDARD.**

5 Section 604 of the National Manufactured Housing
6 Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 (42
7 U.S.C. 5403) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
8 lowing new subsection:

9 “(i) WEATHER RADIOS.—

10 “(1) CONSTRUCTION AND SAFETY STAND-
11 ARD.—The Federal manufactured home construction
12 and safety standards established by the Secretary
13 under this section shall require that each manufac-
14 tured home delivered for sale shall be supplied with
15 a weather radio inside the manufactured home
16 that—

17 “(A) is capable of broadcasting emergency
18 information relating to local weather conditions;

19 “(B) is equipped with a tone alarm;

20 “(C) is equipped with Specific Alert Mes-
21 sage Encoding, or SAME technology; and

22 “(D) complies with Consumer Electronics
23 Association (CEA) Standard 2009–A (or cur-
24 rent revision thereof) Performance Specification
25 for Public Alert Receivers.

1 “(2) LIABILITY PROTECTIONS.—No aspect of
2 the function, operation, performance, capabilities, or
3 utilization of the weather radio required under this
4 subsection, or any instructions related thereto, shall
5 be subject to the requirements of sections 613 or
6 615 or any regulations promulgated by the Secretary
7 pursuant to the authority under such sections.”.

8 **SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT.**

9 Not later than the expiration of the 90-day period
10 beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the
11 consensus committee established pursuant to section
12 604(a)(3) of the National Manufactured Housing Con-
13 struction and Safety Standards Act of 1974 (42 U.S.C.
14 5304(a)(3)) shall develop and submit to the Secretary of
15 Housing and Urban Development a proposed Federal
16 manufactured home construction and safety standard re-
17 quired under section 604(i) of such Act (as added by the
18 amendment made by section 3 of this Act). Notwith-
19 standing section 604(a)(5)(B) of such Act, the Secretary
20 of Housing and Urban Development shall issue a final
21 order promulgating the standard required by such section
22 604(i) not later than the expiration of the 90-day period
23 beginning upon receipt by the Secretary of the proposed
24 standard developed and submitted by the consensus com-
25 mittee.

1 **SEC. 5. STUDY.**

2 The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development
3 shall conduct a study regarding conditioning the applica-
4 bility of the requirement under the amendment made by
5 section 3 of this Act (relating to supplying weather radios
6 in manufactured homes) on the geographic location at
7 which a manufactured home is placed, but only to the ex-
8 tent that such requirement applies to new manufactured
9 homes and new site-built homes. In conducting such study
10 and making determinations under the study, the Secretary
11 shall take into consideration severe weather conditions,
12 such as high winds and flooding, and wind zones and other
13 severe weather data available from the National Weather
14 Service. Not later than the expiration of the 18-month pe-
15 riod beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act,
16 the Secretary shall complete the study and submit a report
17 regarding the results of the study to the Committee on
18 Financial Services of the House of Representatives and
19 to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Af-
20 fairs of the Senate.

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