

REVISED LEGISLATIVE DIGEST
(Amended in Committee, 4/26/2021)

[Fire, Existing Building Codes - Fire Alarm Systems Upgrade Deadline]

Ordinance amending the Fire Code and Existing Building Code to extend the deadline for building owners to upgrade existing fire alarm systems from July 1, 2021, to July 1, 2023; making findings under the California Health and Safety Code; and directing the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors to forward this Ordinance to the California Building Standards Commission upon final passage.

Existing Law

The Fire Code and the Existing Building Code both currently require that, for all buildings that are required to have a fire alarm system under the Fire Code, Existing Building Code, Housing Code, or any other law, the building owners upgrade their system to comply with the sound level required by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 72 for new installations no later than July 1, 2021.

Amendments to Current Law

This ordinance would extend the deadline for building owners to upgrade their system to comply with the NFPA 72 sound level requirements from July 1, 2021, to July 1, 2023.

Background Information

The local impact of the COVID-19 emergency, including economic harm and delays in building projects, make it difficult for some building owners to meet the current July 1, 2021, deadline for fire alarm upgrades. To account for these COVID-19-related impacts, this ordinance would allow building owners an additional two years to make these upgrades.

n:\legana\as2021\2100284\01518362.docx