

## ASSISTANCE

53.

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.

(B) "OCCUPANT NEEDING EVACUATION ASSISTANCE" MEANS ANY PERSON WHO, BECAUSE OF AGE, BLINDNESS, DISABILITY, OF PHYSICAL OR MENTAL ILLNESS, IS UNABLE TO EVACUATE A BUILDING IN CASE OF FIRE WITHOUT ASSISTANCE.

(C) "AUTOMATIC FIRE EXTINGUISHING SYSTEM" MEANS A SYSTEM DESIGNED TO AUTOMATICALLY DETECT AND EXTINGUISH A FIRE WHILE SOUNDING AN ALARM, AND INSTALLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ACCEPTED ENGINEERING PRACTICES AS APPROVED BY THE AUTHORITY HAVING JURISDICTION.

54.

(A) EVERY BUILDING CONSTRUCTED AFTER JULY 1, ~~[[1976]]~~ 1977 WHICH WILL HOUSE 50 OR MORE OCCUPANTS NEEDING EVACUATION ASSISTANCE SHALL BE PROTECTED THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE BUILDING BY AN AUTOMATIC FIRE EXTINGUISHING SYSTEM.

[[ (B) EVERY EXISTING BUILDING HOUSING 50 OR MORE OCCUPANTS NEEDING EVACUATION ASSISTANCE SHALL BE PROTECTED THROUGHOUT EVERY INTERIOR ESCAPE ROUTE BY AN AUTOMATIC FIRE EXTINGUISHING SYSTEM BY JULY 1, 1980.

(C) EVERY EXISTING BUILDING HOUSING 50 OR MORE OCCUPANTS NEEDING EVACUATION ASSISTANCE SHALL BE PROTECTED THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE BUILDING BY AN AUTOMATIC FIRE EXTINGUISHING SYSTEM BY JULY 1, 1986. ]]

[[ (D) ]] (B) THIS SUBTITLE SHALL BE IN ADDITION TO ANY EXISTING SAFETY FIRE LAWS. THESE PROVISIONS DO NOT LIMIT THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE FIRE PREVENTION COMMISSION OR STATE FIRE MARSHAL TO ACT UNDER EXISTING SAFETY FIRE LAWS.

55.

(A) PENALTIES FOR VIOLATION OF THIS SUBTITLE SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH §13 OF THIS ARTICLE.

[[ (B) NOTWITHSTANDING THE CRIMINAL SANCTIONS IMPOSED BY THIS SUBTITLE, ANY PERSON SUFFERING ANY LOSS BY REASON OF A VIOLATION OF THIS SUBTITLE BY ANOTHER PERSON, WHETHER OR NOT THAT PERSON HAS BEEN FOUND GUILTY OF A CRIMINAL VIOLATION, MAY RECOVER REASONABLE DAMAGES FROM THAT PERSON IN ANY COURT OF COMPETENT JURISDICTION. ]]

[[ (B) THE PROVISION OF THE SUBTITLE SHALL APPLY IN BALTIMORE CITY WHERE THEY WILL BE ENFORCED BY THE BALTIMORE CITY BOARD OF FIRE COMMISSIONERS. ]]