

## CHAPTER 585

(Senate Bill 1037)

AN ACT concerning

## Consumer Protection - Stoves and Freestanding Fireplaces

FOR the purpose of preventing continuation of unnecessary fatalities caused by the unprotected sale of dangerous heating appliances by prohibiting the sale, distribution, or installation of any new wood-burning or hand-fired stove or freestanding fireplace unless ~~it meets certain minimum safety standards~~ the stove or fireplace is accompanied with instructions including certain information; providing for the enforcement of this Act; and providing a penalty.

BY adding to

Article - Commercial Law  
Section 14-1309  
Annotated Code of Maryland  
(1975 Volume and 1979 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That section(s) of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed, amended, or enacted to read as follows:

## Article - Commercial Law

14-1309.

(A) A PERSON MAY NOT SELL, DISTRIBUTE, OR INSTALL ANY NEW HAND-FIRED HEATING STOVE OR FREESTANDING FIREPLACE THAT IS INTENDED ULTIMATELY FOR INSTALLATION IN A PERMANENT OR TEMPORARY RESIDENCE UNLESS THE STOVE OR FIREPLACE IS CLEARLY MARKED, LABELED, OR STAMPED WITH THE SYMBOL OF A RECOGNIZED TESTING LABORATORY APPROVED BY THE STATE FIRE MARSHAL ACCOMPANIED WITH COMPLETE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE SAFE INSTALLATION AND OPERATION OF THE APPLIANCE, INCLUDING INFORMATION ON:

(1) THE SAFE CLEARANCE OF STRUCTURAL MEMBERS, AS ESTABLISHED BY THE NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION PAMPHLET 89M, "CLEARANCES FOR HEAT PRODUCING APPLIANCES";

(2) THE TYPE OF FUEL TO BE BURNED IN THE APPLIANCE;

(3) PROPER STARTING INSTRUCTIONS;

(4) PROPER STORAGE OF FUEL;

(5) SAFE DISPOSAL OF ASHES; AND