

Senate File 487 - Introduced

SENATE FILE _____
BY COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY

(SUCCESSOR TO SF 330)

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act requiring the state fire marshal to assess the practice
2 and impact of selling novelty lighters.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
4 TLSB 2720SV 82
5 rn/je/5

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1 1 Section 1. NOVELTY LIGHTER SALES == IMPACT ASSESSMENT.
1 2 1. The state fire marshal shall assess the degree to which
1 3 the sale of novelty lighters may increase the likelihood of
1 4 accidental fire, and related injury or death. For purposes of
1 5 this section, "novelty lighter" means a cigarette lighter or
1 6 other incendiary device which exhibits a design which deviates
1 7 from the normal design of such lighters or devices in terms of
1 8 the nature of the object depicted, such as an animal,
1 9 inanimate object shape, firearm, or other novel or unusual
1 10 design which is intended to attract the purchaser. In
1 11 conducting the assessment, the state fire marshal shall focus
1 12 on the extent to which children and youth may be more inclined
1 13 to pick up and utilize novelty lighters by virtue of their
1 14 unique design characteristics, and shall make a determination
1 15 or render an estimate regarding the number of accidental fires
1 16 involving or started by children and youth in which novelty
1 17 lighters may have been involved.
1 18 2. The state fire marshal shall prepare a report based on
1 19 the assessment, which shall include recommendations regarding
1 20 restrictions on the sale of novelty lighters, and shall submit
1 21 the report to the members of the general assembly by January
1 22 1, 2008.

EXPLANATION

1 24 This bill requires the state fire marshal to assess the
1 25 degree to which novelty lighter sales may increase the
1 26 likelihood of accidental fire, and related injury or death.
1 27 The bill defines a "novelty lighter" as a cigarette lighter or
1 28 other incendiary device which exhibits a design which deviates
1 29 from the normal design of such lighters or devices in terms of
1 30 the nature of the object depicted and which is intended to
1 31 attract the purchaser as a result. The bill provides as
1 32 examples of novel designs an animal, inanimate object shape,
1 33 or firearm. The bill provides that in conducting the
1 34 assessment, the state fire marshal shall focus on the extent
1 35 to which children and youth may be more inclined to pick up
2 1 and utilize novelty lighters by virtue of their unique design
2 2 characteristics, and shall determine or estimate the number of
2 3 accidental fires involving or started by children and youth in
2 4 which novelty lighters may have been involved.
2 5 The bill states that the state fire marshal shall prepare a
2 6 report based on the assessment, including recommendations
2 7 regarding restrictions on the sale of novelty lighters, and
2 8 shall submit the report to the members of the general assembly
2 9 by January 1, 2008.
2 10 LSB 2720SV 82
2 11 rn:nh/je/5