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Legislative Document

No. 1302

H.P. 954

House of Representatives, March 24, 2011

An Act To Extend Fire Code Rules to Single-family Dwellings Used as Nursing Homes for 3 or Fewer Patients

Submitted by the Department of Public Safety pursuant to Joint Rule 204. Reference to the Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety suggested and ordered printed.

Heath & Print

HEATHER J.R. PRIEST Clerk

Presented by Representative CLARKE of Bath. Cosponsored by Representative: DAMON of Bangor.

1 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 25 MRSA §2452, first ¶, as amended by PL 2007, c. 632, §1, is further
amended to read:

4 The Commissioner of Public Safety shall adopt and may amend rules governing the safety to life from fire in or around all buildings or other structures and mass outdoor 5 gatherings, as defined in Title 22, section 1601, subsection 2, within the commissioner's 6 jurisdiction. These rules do not apply to nursing homes having 3 or fewer patients. 7 Automatic sprinkler systems may not be required in existing noncommercial places of 8 9 assembly. Noncommercial places of assembly include those facilities used for such purposes as deliberation, worship, entertainment, amusement or awaiting transportation 10 that have a capacity of 100 to 300 persons. Rules adopted pursuant to this section are 11 routine technical rules, except that rules pertaining to fire sprinklers are major substantive 12 rules, both of which are defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A. 13

SUMMARY

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15 Current law provides that certain fire code rules adopted by the Commissioner of 16 Public Safety do not apply to nursing homes having 3 or fewer patients. This bill 17 removes that limitation, therefore extending application of those rules to nursing homes 18 with 3 or fewer patients.