



**Informal Interpretation Report
Number 7555**



Date August 01, 2015

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Section 553.883

Question:

Is it the intent of the state of Florida to ban smoke alarms powered with a 9 volt battery. They are still being sold in home improvement stores.

Answer

Yes. Although this question is referring to a Florida

Statute number, the requirement is found in the Florida

Building Code - Existing Buildings volume.

Commentary:

Existing Building Code 403.7 ...Effective January 1, 2015, a

battery-powered smoke alarm that is newly installed or

replaces an existing battery-powered smoke alarm must be

powered by a nonremovable, nonreplaceable battery that

powers the alarm for at least 10 years. The battery

requirements of this section do not apply to a fire alarm,

smoke detector, smoke alarm, or ancillary component that is

electronically

connected as a part of a centrally monitored or supervised

alarm system.

While this is in the FBC-EB, it is also in numerous locations to codify statutory changes to Ch. 553.883. See FBC-EB ss. 403.7, 603.2, 703.2, and FBC-R s.R314.44.

Notice:

The Building Officials Association of Florida, in cooperation with the Florida Building Commission, the Florida Department of Business & Professional Regulation, ICC, and industry and professional experts offer this interpretation of the Florida Building Code in the interest of consistency in their application statewide. This interpretation is informal, non-binding and subject to acceptance and approval by the local building official.