



News Release

For Immediate Release

September 12, 2013

Contact: Leonard Greenberger (202) 466-6172

Email: lgreenberger@foaminsulationcoalition.org

CALIFORNIA PASSES LEGISLATION TO REVIEW AND MAINTAIN FIRE SAFETY STANDARDS FOR ALL INSULATION

Bill Will Initiate Fire Marshal Review, Not Affect Existing Products or Standards

WASHINGTON (September 12, 2013) – The California State Legislature passed Assembly Bill 127 (AB 127), requiring the California State Fire Marshal to review the flammability standards for all building insulation materials. The bill, which does not change current building codes or flammability standards for building materials, is expected to be signed into law.

The [Energy Efficient Foam Coalition](#) (EEFC) issued the following statement about AB 127:

“Fires pose a real and serious threat to both people and property. At a minimum, maintaining fire safety in homes and buildings must be the priority for any discussions or actions related to flammability standards for building materials. Flame retardants in foam insulation serve a vital role in fire safety and provide an important layer of protection to people, homes and buildings. The emphasis on fire prevention codified in AB 127 is appropriate to protect Californians and help ensure the highest standards of fire safety.

“Foam insulation offers an excellent solution for energy-efficient, high-performance buildings and for California’s ambitious energy efficiency goals. It has been used in California homes and buildings for decades, helping solidify California’s position as a leader in energy-efficient construction. We look forward to extensive consultation with the California State Fire Marshal and others to validate the existing flammability standards and explore potential improvements.”

About the Bill

AB 127, proposed by Assemblymember Nancy Skinner (D-Berkeley), states that the State Fire Marshal, in consultation with the California Bureau of Electronic and Appliance Repair, Home Furnishings, and Thermal Insulation, will reassess flammability standards for all building insulation materials.

After this review, the State Fire Marshal may propose updated flammability standards to the California Building Standards Commission by June 1, 2015. Significantly, the bill takes special care to emphasize that any proposal must maintain stringent fire safety standards. The Commission would then decide independently whether to adopt or reject any proposal from the State Fire Marshal.

-- more --



#

<http://www.americanchemistry.com>

The American Chemistry Council (ACC) represents the leading companies engaged in the business of chemistry. ACC members apply the science of chemistry to make innovative products and services that make people's lives better, healthier and safer. ACC is committed to improved environmental, health and safety performance through Responsible Care®, common sense advocacy designed to address major public policy issues, and health and environmental research and product testing. The business of chemistry is a \$770 billion enterprise and a key element of the nation's economy. It is one of the nation's largest exporters, accounting for twelve percent of all U.S. exports. Chemistry companies are among the largest investors in research and development. Safety and security have always been primary concerns of ACC members, and they have intensified their efforts, working closely with government agencies to improve security and to defend against any threat to the nation's critical infrastructure.

<http://www.foaminsulationcoalition.org>

The Energy Efficient Foam Coalition's mission is to promote the benefits of foam insulation products and to provide factual information that brings a credible, science-based perspective to discussions surrounding the use of flame retardants in rigid and spray foam insulation.

