

S B

3 9 3

HOUSE COMMITTEE REPORT

(7)

Date Referred: February 28, 1990

FURTHER REFERRALS:

Date of Committee Action: 3/29/90

The LABOR & COMMERCE Committee considered:

SB 393

SENATE BILL NO. 393

SAFETY OF PROPANE GAS DEVICES ON RV'S

"An Act relating to sale or rental of recreational motor vehicles; and providing for an effective date."

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- [] be replaced with _____ [] the same title
[] a new title
[] have attached amendment(s)
[] do pass
[] do not pass
[] no recommendation
[] individual recommendations
[] additional referral to the _____ Committee

ADOPTS: _____ letter of intent

ATTACHES NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):
(Dept)

APPROVES PREVIOUS:

(Date/Dept)

- [] fiscal impact _____
[] zero fiscal note _____
[] zero with analysis _____

- [] fiscal note(s) _____
[] zero fiscal note(s) Public Safety
[] zero fn/analysis _____

SIGNING DO PASS:

SIGNING:

(Check approp. column)

Do Not
Pass
No Rec
All

David Donley Donley
Mark Bayer Bayer
Frank Finkelstein Finkelstein
Ch. B. Boucher Boucher
W. G. Gruenberg Gruenberg

	Do Not Pass	No Rec	All <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

David Donley

Chairman's Signature

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST:

Revision Date: _____ Agency Affected: Public Safety
 Title: Safety of Propane Gas Devices
on RV'S BRU: DMV
 Sponsor: Fahrenkamp Component: _____
 Requestor: Senate Labor & Commerce

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars) (Inflation not included)

OPERATING	FY 91	FY 92	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

CAPITAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
---------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

REVENUE	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
---------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
PART-TIME	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-
TEMPORARY	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

No fiscal impact.

Prepared by: Juanita M. Henslev
 Division: DMV

Phone: 465-4361
 Date: 02/12/90

Approved by Commissioner: Arthur English
 Agency: Department of Public Safety

Date: 2-12-90

Handwritten:
2/12/90

Alaska State Legislature




SENATOR BETTYE FAHRENKAMP
CHAIRMAN, RESOURCES COMMITTEE
119 N. CUSHMAN STREET, SUITE 201
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99701
OFFICE (907) 452-4882
HOME (907) 456-2899

WHILE IN JUNEAU
PO BOX V
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99811
CAPITOL, ROOM 125
OFFICE (907) 465-3834
HOME (907) 780-6027

Senate

MEMORANDUM

TO: Representative Dave Donley, Chairman
House Labor and Commerce Committee

FROM: Senator Bettye Fahrenkamp 

DATE: March 20, 1990

SUBJECT: Senate Bill 393
"An Act relating to sale or rental of recreational motor vehicles; efd."

A couple in Fairbanks, who are both friends and neighbors of mine, bought a motor home awhile back. They were excited about the new travel possibilities it opened up, and wanted to spend a night in the new RV at home, before taking it on the road. Parked in their driveway, that night, while they were sleeping, there was a propane leak (the result of an improperly done factory-installed hookup), and an explosion. Both the husband and the wife were burned, with the wife suffering very serious third degree burns.

ABOUT THE BILL:

SB 393 requires that a basic propane detector, which retails for about \$100, be installed on newer RV's that are sold and on all RVs that are rented in Alaska after January 1, 1992. A propane detector working off a 12 volt battery will sound an alarm when it detects more than 25% of the lower explosion limit in the air.

Although "mercaptan" is added to propane so that people can smell the gas should it leak, not all people can smell the additive (for example, people who are sleeping or whose sense of smell is impaired). Couple this with the increasing incidence of people living in recreational vehicles and thus putting greater stress than was designed for on the appliances and connections, and people doing their own repairs and modifications in order to save money, and you can easily have a literally "explosive" situation.

BILL SUMMARY:

SB 393 requires that a gas detector be installed in all recreational vehicles that are rented, and on 1990 or newer model recreational vehicles that are sold in Alaska. This applies only to RVs that are equipped with propane stoves or heating devices. The bill takes effect January 1, 1992.

FISCAL IMPACT/PREVIOUS ACTION:

Zero fiscal note from the Department of Public Safety, Division of Motor Vehicles. Senate Labor & Commerce Committee considered the bill on February 12, and all members present at the meeting recommended "do pass". The Senate considered the measure on 2/27/90; measure passed with unanimous "yea" votes, with all 20 members present.