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**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

**LS 6440**  
**BILL NUMBER:** HB 1077

**NOTE PREPARED:** Dec 2, 2006  
**BILL AMENDED:**

**SUBJECT:** Fire Partitions.

**FIRST AUTHOR:** Rep. Tincher  
**FIRST SPONSOR:**

**BILL STATUS:** As Introduced

**FUNDS AFFECTED:**     **GENERAL**  
                              **DEDICATED**  
                              **FEDERAL**

**IMPACT:** State

**Summary of Legislation:** This bill requires newly constructed and remodeled dormitories and senior housing projects to contain fire partitions.

**Effective Date:** Upon passage.

**Explanation of State Expenditures:** The bill would increase the construction costs of dormitories and senior housing projects by an unknown amount. The bill would require the following:

1. An opening in a fire partition must be protected with at least a 90-minute fire protection rating.
2. A fire partition must have a sound transmission coefficient of at least 50%.
3. A dormitory or senior housing project must have an automatic sprinkler system.
4. A floor assembly in a new dormitory or senior housing project must have a 2-hour fire resistance rating and be of noncombustible construction.

*Background Information:* The current fire rules require new and remodeled housing to have fire partitions. Each unit is separated by non-combustible construction built to have a fire rating of one hour. The doors from the units to the public halls have a 20-minute rating. Stairways are enclosed with 2-hour fire rated construction and the stairway doors have a 1½-hour fire rating. Residence halls generally have fire alarms and smoke detectors.

The requirement could increase the construction costs of dormitories from 25% to 100%. The major expense is upgrading the current 60-minute fire rating to a 90-minute fire rating. Dormitories currently do have fire partitions and sprinkler systems. Universities would probably have to increase the charges for room and board to cover the increased costs.

**Explanation of State Revenues:**

**Explanation of Local Expenditures:**

**Explanation of Local Revenues:**

**State Agencies Affected:** State Universities, Fire and Building Safety Commission.

**Local Agencies Affected:**

**Information Sources:** State Universities.

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