

## **SUMMARY and FISCAL NOTE**

<b>Department:</b>	<b>Dept. Contact:</b>	<b>CBO Contact:</b>
SFD	Karen Grove	Andrew Dziedzic

### **1. BILL SUMMARY**

**Legislation Title:**

AN ORDINANCE relating to the Seattle Fire Code; clarifying provisions relating to preventable alarms and securing of premises, and amending Sections 112, 202, 311, and 901 of the 2021 Seattle Fire Code as adopted by Section 22.600.020 of the Seattle Municipal Code and as regulated and allowed by the State Building Code Act, chapter 19.27 of the Revised Code of Washington.

**Summary and Background of the Legislation:**

The standards for subscribing to unsworn declarations were contained in RCW 9A.72.085 for nearly 40 years. As a result, several evidentiary proceedings in the Seattle Municipal Code referred to it, as did the Seattle Fire Code. In 2019, the Washington State Legislature repealed RCW 9A.72.085, combining its material into chapter 5.50 RCW (formerly the Uniform Unsworn Foreign Declarations Act) and converting the chapter into the Uniform Unsworn Declarations Act.

This repeal caused every municipal code in the state that referred to RCW 9A.72.085 to point to a repealed section of the law. This bill removes the reference in the Fire Code to the repealed provision and points to chapter 5.50 RCW generally, which is the exact amendment in the original state statute.

The Seattle Fire Code establishes standards intended to preserve lives and protect property. The Seattle Fire Code provides citation authority to further the Seattle Fire Department's mission of preserving lives and protecting property through compliance with provisions in the Seattle Fire Code. The Seattle Fire Code includes definitions and enforcement provisions that from time to time require updates, and this ordinance is updating a definition and clarifying certain enforcement provisions. The Seattle Fire Code also provides authority to the Seattle Fire Department to take action to ensure that vacant buildings do not cause a dangerous public nuisance in the community. A small number of clarifying amendments are proposed to these provisions.

### **2. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

**Does this legislation create, fund, or amend a CIP Project?**

☐ Yes ☒ No

### **3. SUMMARY OF FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

Does this legislation have financial impacts to the City?

☐ Yes ☒ No

### 3.d. Other Impacts

Does the legislation have other financial impacts to The City of Seattle, including direct or indirect, one-time or ongoing costs, that are not included in Sections 3.a through 3.c? If so, please describe these financial impacts. No.

If the legislation has costs, but they can be absorbed within existing operations, please describe how those costs can be absorbed. The description should clearly describe if the absorbed costs are achievable because the department had excess resources within their existing budget or if by absorbing these costs the department is deprioritizing other work that would have used these resources. Not applicable; no new costs from this legislation.

Please describe any financial costs or other impacts of *not* implementing the legislation. Continuing to refer to a repealed law may be confusing to readers.

Please describe how this legislation may affect any City departments other than the originating department. No impact.

### 4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

- a. Is a public hearing required for this legislation? No.
- b. Is publication of notice with The Daily Journal of Commerce and/or The Seattle Times required for this legislation? No.
- c. Does this legislation affect a piece of property? No.
- d. Please describe any perceived implication for the principles of the Race and Social Justice Initiative.
  - i. How does this legislation impact vulnerable or historically disadvantaged communities? How did you arrive at this conclusion? In your response please consider impacts within City government (employees, internal programs) as well as in the broader community. No impacts from these small clean ups/clarifications.
  - ii. Please attach any Racial Equity Toolkits or other racial equity analyses in the development and/or assessment of the legislation. No impact to racial equity from these small clean ups/clarifications.
  - iii. What is the Language Access Plan for any communications to the public? No communications need identified as a result of these small clean ups/clarifications.
- e. Climate Change Implications

- i. Emissions: How is this legislation likely to increase or decrease carbon emissions in a material way? Please attach any studies or other materials that were used to inform this response. No impact.**
  - ii. Resiliency: Will the action(s) proposed by this legislation increase or decrease Seattle's resiliency (or ability to adapt) to climate change in a material way? If so, explain. If it is likely to decrease resiliency in a material way, describe what will or could be done to mitigate the effects. No impact.**
- f. If this legislation includes a new initiative or a major programmatic expansion: What are the specific long-term and measurable goal(s) of the program? How will this legislation help achieve the program's desired goal(s)? What mechanisms will be used to measure progress towards meeting those goals? No new initiative or programmatic expansion.**
- g. Does this legislation create a non-utility CIP project that involves a shared financial commitment with a non-City partner agency or organization? No.**

## **5. ATTACHMENTS**

**Summary Attachments:** None.