



104TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2025 and 2026

HB5480

Introduced 2/13/2026, by Rep. Michael J. Kelly

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

425 ILCS 25/6
425 ILCS 25/6.1

from Ch. 127 1/2, par. 6

Amends the Fire Investigation Act. Directs the Office of the State Fire Marshal to investigate the cause, origin, and circumstances of a fire or an explosion in which fire is presumed to be a contributing factor in a death, and lists related procedures and requirements. Provides that the reporting of fires, hazardous material incidents, and other incidents shall be based upon the nationally recognized standards of the United States Fire Administration's National Emergency Response Information System (rather than the National Fire Incident Reporting System). Effective immediately.

LRB104 19938 BDA 33388 b

1 AN ACT concerning safety.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Fire Investigation Act is amended by
5 changing Sections 6 and 6.1 as follows:

6 (425 ILCS 25/6) (from Ch. 127 1/2, par. 6)

7 Sec. 6. Investigation and record of fires; Office of the
8 State Fire Marshal.

9 (a) The chief of the fire department shall investigate the
10 cause, origin and circumstances of every fire occurring in a
11 municipality or fire protection district, or in any area or on
12 any property which is furnished fire protection by the fire
13 department of such municipality or fire protection district,
14 by which property has been destroyed or damaged, and shall
15 especially make investigation as to whether such fire was the
16 result of carelessness or design. Such investigation shall be
17 begun within two days, not including Sunday, of the occurrence
18 of such fire, and the Office shall have the right to supervise
19 and direct such investigation whenever it deems it expedient
20 or necessary. The officer making investigation of fires
21 occurring in cities, villages, towns, fire protection
22 districts or townships shall forthwith notify the Office and
23 shall by the 15th of the month following the occurrence of the

1 fire, furnish to the Office a statement of all facts relating
2 to the cause and origin of the fire, and such other information
3 as may be called for in a format approved or on forms provided
4 by the Office.

5 (a-5) The Office shall investigate the cause, origin, and
6 circumstances of a fire or an explosion in which fire is
7 presumed to be a contributing factor in a death. Upon
8 discovery of a fire-related death, the chief of the fire
9 department or designee shall notify the Office for an
10 investigation of the cause, origin, and circumstances.
11 Notwithstanding the notification requirements in subsection
12 (a), the chief of the fire department or designee shall
13 maintain control of the scene until a representative of the
14 Office arrives on the scene and initiates the investigation.
15 This Section does not prohibit a fire department from
16 conducting an investigation in conjunction with the Office.

17 (b) In every case in which a fire is determined to be a
18 contributing factor in a death, the coroner of the county
19 where the death occurred shall report the death to the Office
20 as provided in Section 3-3013 of the Counties Code.

21 (c) The Office shall keep a record of all fires occurring
22 in the State, together with all facts, statistics and
23 circumstances, including the origin of the fires, which may be
24 determined by the investigations provided by this act; such
25 record shall at all times be open to the public inspection, and
26 such portions of it as the State Director of Insurance may deem

1 necessary shall be transcribed and forwarded to him within
2 fifteen days from the first of January of each year.

3 (d) In addition to the reporting of fires, the chief of the
4 fire department shall furnish to the Office such other
5 information as the State Fire Marshal deems of importance to
6 the fire services.

7 (Source: P.A. 101-82, eff. 1-1-20.)

8 (425 ILCS 25/6.1)

9 Sec. 6.1. Fire and hazardous material incident reporting
10 rules. The State Fire Marshal may adopt necessary rules for
11 the administration of the reporting of fires, hazardous
12 material incidents, and other incidents or events that the
13 State Fire Marshal deems of importance to the fire services.
14 The reporting of such information shall be based upon the
15 nationally recognized standards of the United States Fire
16 Administration's National Emergency Response Information
17 System (NERIS) ~~National Fire Incident Reporting System~~
18 ~~(NFIRS)~~.

19 (Source: P.A. 101-82, eff. 1-1-20.)

20 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
21 becoming law.