



94TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2005 and 2006

HB1446

Introduced 2/10/2005, by Rep. Patricia Bailey

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 425 ILCS 55/Act title | |
| 425 ILCS 55/0.01 | from Ch. 111 1/2, par. 3500 |
| 425 ILCS 55/1 | from Ch. 111 1/2, par. 3501 |
| 425 ILCS 55/1.5 new | |
| 425 ILCS 55/3 | from Ch. 111 1/2, par. 3503 |

Amends the Public Building Egress Act. Changes the short title of the Act to the Emergency Egress Act. Provides that the Act shall apply to all buildings (rather than all public buildings). Requires doors serving a room or area with an occupant load of 50 or more in any building, to swing in the direction of egress travel (rather than swing upon their hinges and be constructed so that the doors shall open outward). Requires stairwell enclosures in buildings serving more than 4 stories to comply with one of the following requirements: (1) no stairwell enclosure door shall be locked at any time; or (2) stairwell enclosure doors that are locked shall be equipped with an electronic lock release system that is activated upon loss of power. Provides that stairwell enclosure doors at the main egress level of the building shall remain unlocked from the stairwell enclosure side at all times. Provides that building owners who lock stairwell enclosure doors shall comply with specific requirements during the time necessary to install a lock release system and two-way communication system. Limits the concurrent exercise of home rule powers.

LRB094 05623 RXD 35672 b

HOME RULE NOTE
ACT MAY APPLY

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 Public Building Egress Act is amended by
5 changing the title of the Act and Sections 0.01, 1, and 3 and
6 by adding Section 1.5 as follows:

7 (425 ILCS 55/Act title)

8 An Act to regulate the means of egress from ~~public~~
9 buildings.

10 (425 ILCS 55/0.01) (from Ch. 111 1/2, par. 3500)

11 Sec. 0.01. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
12 Emergency Public Building Egress Act.

13 (Source: P.A. 86-1324.)

14 (425 ILCS 55/1) (from Ch. 111 1/2, par. 3501)

15 Sec. 1. Doors serving a room or area with an occupant load
16 of 50 or more in any building shall swing in the direction of
17 egress travel ~~That all public buildings now in process of~~
18 ~~construction or hereafter to be built or constructed, which may~~
19 ~~or shall be used for churches, school houses, operas, theatres,~~
20 ~~lecture rooms, hotels, public meetings, town halls, or which~~
21 ~~may or shall be used for any purpose whereby a collection of~~
22 ~~people may be assembled together for religious worship,~~
23 ~~amusement or instruction, shall be so built and constructed~~
24 ~~that all doors leading from the main hall or place where said~~
25 ~~collection of people may be assembled, or from the principal~~
26 ~~room which may be used for any of the purposes aforesaid, shall~~
27 ~~be so swung upon their hinges and constructed that said doors~~
28 ~~shall open outward; and that all means of egress for the public~~
29 ~~from the main hall or principal room, and from the building,~~
30 ~~shall be by means of doors which shall open outwards from the~~

1 ~~main hall or building.~~

2 (Source: R.S. 1874, p. 786.)

3 (425 ILCS 55/1.5 new)

4 Sec. 1.5. Stairwell door access.

5 (a) Stairwell enclosures in buildings serving more than 4
6 stories shall comply with one of the following requirements:

7 (1) No stairwell enclosure door shall be locked at any
8 time in order to provide re-entry from the stair enclosure
9 to the interior of the building; or

10 (2) Stairwell enclosure doors that are locked shall be
11 equipped with an electronic lock release system that is
12 activated upon loss of power, manually by a single switch
13 accessible to building management or firefighting
14 personnel, and automatically by activation of the
15 building's fire alarm system.

16 A telephone or other two-way communications system
17 connected to an approved constantly attended location shall be
18 provided at not less than every fifth floor in each stairway
19 where the doors to the stairway are locked. If this option is
20 selected, the building must comply with these requirements by
21 January 1, 2006.

22 (b) Regardless of which option is selected under subsection
23 (a), stairwell enclosure doors at the main egress level of the
24 building shall remain unlocked from the stairwell enclosure
25 side at all times.

26 (c) Building owners that select the option under paragraph
27 (2) of subsection (a) must comply with the following
28 requirements during the time necessary to install a lock
29 release system and the two-way communication system:

30 (1) Re-entry into the building interior shall be
31 possible at all times on the highest story or second
32 highest story, whichever allows access to another exit
33 stair;

34 (2) There shall not be more than 4 stories intervening
35 between stairwell enclosure doors that provide access to

1 another exit stair;

2 (3) Doors allowing re-entry shall be identified as such
3 on the stair side of the door;

4 (4) Doors not allowing re-entry shall be provided with
5 a sign on the stair side indicating the location of the
6 nearest exit, in each direction of travel that allows
7 re-entry; and

8 (5) The information required to be posted on the door
9 under paragraphs (3) and (4) of this subsection, shall be
10 posted at eye level and at the bottom of the door.

11 (d) A home rule unit may not regulate stairwell door access
12 in a manner less restrictive than the regulation by the State
13 of stairwell door access under this Act. This subsection (d) is
14 a limitation under subsection (i) of Section 6 of Article VII
15 of the Illinois Constitution on the concurrent exercise by home
16 rule units of powers and functions exercised by the State.

17 (425 ILCS 55/3) (from Ch. 111 1/2, par. 3503)

18 Sec. 3. The Office of the State Fire Marshal shall have
19 power to enforce this Act. The Office of the State Fire Marshal
20 and the mayor, or other corporate authorities of the town or
21 city, may close and prohibit all ~~public~~ buildings, hereafter
22 erected, from being used in violation of this Act.

23 (Source: P.A. 82-783.)