

Laws of Minnesota 2024, chapter 127, article 15, section 46

Sec. 46. SINGLE-EGRESS STAIRWAY APARTMENT BUILDING REPORT.

The commissioner of labor and industry must evaluate conditions under which apartment buildings with a single means of egress above three stories up to 75 feet would achieve life safety outcomes equal to or superior to currently adopted codes. The commissioner must use research techniques that include smoke modeling, egress modeling, an analysis of fire loss history in jurisdictions that have already adopted similar provisions, and interviews with fire services regarding fire suppression and rescue techniques in such buildings. The commissioner shall consult with relevant stakeholders, including but not limited to the Minnesota Fire Chiefs Association, Minnesota Professional Firefighters Association, Fire Marshals Association of Minnesota, Association of Minnesota Building Officials, Housing First Minnesota, Center for Building in North America, and faculty from the relevant department of a university which grants degrees in fire protection engineering. In addition, the commissioner must also contextualize the life safety outcomes from the single-egress evaluation to life safety outcomes in other types of housing. The commissioner may contract with external experts or an independent third party to develop the report and perform other functions required of the commissioner under this section. The report must include recommendations for code updates for the single-egress buildings evaluated in this section. By December 31, 2025, the commissioner must report on the findings to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over housing and state building codes.