

The Times

Date: December 3, 2011 **Subject:** Times of Trenton Letters to the Editor **Circ:** 37,347

Times of Trenton Letters to the Editor - Dec. 3

Published: Saturday, December 03, 2011, 7:03 AM



By **Times of Trenton Letters to the Editor**

Follow

Recommend

Be the first of your friends to recommend this.

Comment 0

Tweet 0

Share

Email

Print

Tell lawmakers to approve lifesaving sprinkler rule

The New Jersey Assembly has the opportunity to make a significant step toward protecting our residents from the dangers of fire. It is voting on bill A3278, which requires fire sprinkler systems in new one- and two-family homes, on Dec. 5.

Fire sprinklers are a cost-efficient way to save lives and reduce property damage. To date, there has never been a multiple loss of life due to fire in a structure with a fully installed and well-maintained sprinkler system. If approved, the bill will bring immeasurable benefits to the residents of New Jersey by potentially saving countless lives, maybe even your own.

This bill is needed to bring New Jersey's building codes up to the minimum national standards, as outlined in the 2009 International Residential Code. To date, New Jersey has failed to adopt the sprinkler requirement section of the code, but has adopted the use of very flammable "lightweight" construction materials, which leaves firefighters and residents only three minutes to escape during a fire. This places tremendous pressure on our local firefighters and first responders, enhancing their risk of injury during rescues.

I ask for readers' support of bill A3278 and urge them to send a message of support to their local Assembly members to stop tragic loss of life from fire and urge them to vote yes on bill A3278 on Monday.

-- David Kurasz,

North Brunswick

The writer is executive director of the New Jersey Fire Sprinkler Advisory Board.

