

## CHAPTER 53

**AN ACT** concerning emergency evacuation plans of certain multiple dwellings, amending and supplementing P.L. 2001, c.80, and amending P.L.1953, c.438.

**BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

1. Section 1 of P.L. 2001, c. 80 (C.52:27D-224.1) is amended to read as follows:

C.52:27D-224.1 Evacuation plans for certain multiple dwellings, filing with municipality.

1. An owner of a multiple dwelling, as defined under section 3 of P.L.1967, c.76 (C.55:13A-3), which is comprised of more than 20 dwelling units and reserves occupancy for residents who have attained the minimum age of 55, shall annually prepare and maintain an emergency building evacuation plan for the multiple dwelling, in coordination with the appropriate local fire and emergency response agencies. A copy of the plan shall be filed with the municipal emergency management coordinator.

If the health, safety or welfare of any resident of such a multiple dwelling cannot be maintained during the disruption of essential services as defined pursuant to section 2 of P.L.2003, c.53 (C.52:27D-224.2), the emergency evacuation plan shall provide for individualized evacuation of such a resident.

C.52:27D-224.2 Notification relative to disruption of services, "essential services" defined.

2. Whenever in a multiple dwelling for which an annual emergency building evacuation plan is required to be filed pursuant to section 1 of P.L.2001, c.80 (C.52:27D-224.1) essential services are disrupted for a period of time longer than two hours, the owner of the multiple dwelling shall notify, in writing and by voice communication, the municipal emergency management coordinator. For the purposes of this section, "essential services" means the supply of adequate heat, water, hot water, electricity, gas, and telephone service.

3. Section 8 of P.L.1953, c.438 (C.App.A:9-40.1) is amended to read as follows:

C.App.A:9-40.1 Municipal emergency management coordinator.

8. In every municipality of this State the mayor or, in the case of a municipality which has adopted the commission form of government pursuant to the provisions of the "commission form of government law" (R.S.40:70-1 et seq.), the commissioner serving as director of the department to which the responsibility for emergency management has been assigned, shall appoint a municipal emergency management coordinator from among the residents of the municipality. The municipal emergency management coordinator, subject to fulfilling the requirements of this section, shall serve for a term of three years. As a condition of his appointment and his right to continue for the full term of his appointment, each municipal emergency management coordinator shall have successfully completed at the time of his appointment or within one year immediately following his appointment or the effective date of this act, whichever is later, the current approved Home Study Course and the basic Emergency Management workshop. The failure of any municipal emergency management coordinator to fulfill such requirement within the period prescribed shall disqualify the coordinator from continuing in the office of coordinator and thereupon a vacancy in said office shall be deemed to have been created.

The provisions of this section shall not bar a municipality from entering into an agreement pursuant to the "Interlocal Services Act," P.L.1973, c.208 (C.40:8A-1 et seq.) to designate (1) a municipal emergency management coordinator to serve two or more municipalities jointly, or (2) the county emergency management coordinator appointed pursuant to section 12 of P.L.1953, c.438 (C.App.A:9-42.1) for the county in which that municipality is located as the municipal emergency management coordinator, subject to approval of the governing body of the county. A municipality entering into such an agreement shall notify the State Emergency Management Coordinator.

4. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved April 23, 2003.