

PRESS RELEASE



Phil Dyer
Mayor

Harry LaRosiliere
Mayor Pro Tem

Lee Dunlap
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem

Pat Miner
Place 1

Ben Harris
Place 2

Mabrie Jackson
Place 3

Lissa Smith
Place 4

Jean Callison
Place 7

Thomas H. Muehlenbeck
City Manager

For Immediate Release
Friday, June 06, 2009

Contact:
Captain Floyd Jones
Plano Fire Department
972-941-7295

****ALERT** News Conference — 25+ North TX Fire Reps Oppose Passage of SB 1410**

A news conference is scheduled for **Monday, June 8** at 12:00 noon – the topic: DFW fire chiefs and representatives will address opposition to the passage of Senate Bill 1410 which prohibits a city from enacting ordinances concerning residential fire sprinkler systems.

This news conference will be held Monday just as the Executive Board of the Texas Fire Chiefs Association holds a press conference in Austin stressing their opposition to the bill. It is the hope of these fire chiefs and representatives that Governor Perry will veto the bill. *Ironically, Monday, June 8th is the one year anniversary of the fire which destroyed the Governor's Mansion in Austin.*

The bill states that *after January 1, 2009 a municipality may not enact an ordinance, by law, order, building code, or rule requiring the installation of a multipurpose residential fire protection sprinkler system or any other fire sprinkler protection system in a new or existing one- or two-family dwelling.*

SB 1410 is opposed by several groups including the Texas Fire Chiefs Association, the Texas Fire Marshal's Association, the Texas Firemen's and Fire Marshal's Association, the Building Officials Association of Texas and the Texas Municipal League. Despite the efforts of these groups, the bill passed in the Senate on April 7 and passed in House amendments on May 29.

At the heart of the opposition is the fact that the bill will rescind the Texas tradition of "Home Rule" whereby local officials and citizens are allowed to determine the best fire and building code requirements to address their unique circumstances. Most other cities in the DFW metroplex have codes in place governing residential sprinkler systems.

The DFW news conference will be held at the Plano Fire Administration Building located at 1901 K Avenue in Plano.

Note: Detailed press packets will be distributed to the media.

-30-