

**Summary**

**Board Bill Number 150**

**Primary Sponsor: Alderwoman Vicky Grass**

**October 23, 2020**

The proposed bill would amend **Ordinance 70932**, which defines “recreational fire” and establishes requirements for their location, by changing the minimum distance a recreational fire must be located away from a structure from twenty-five (25) feet to twelve (12) feet.

**BOARD BILL NUMBER 150 INTRODUCED BY: ALDERWOMAN VICKY GRASS**

1 An ordinance amending **Ordinance 70932**, which defines “recreational fire” and establishes  
2 requirements for their location, by changing the minimum distance a recreational fire must be  
3 located away from a structure from twenty-five (25) feet to twelve (12) feet.

4 **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS AS FOLLOWS:**

5 **SECTION ONE.** Section Two, paragraph (1) of **Ordinance 70932**, a copy of which is attached  
6 hereto, is hereby amended to be and read as follows:

7 **SECTION TWO.** Conduct and Management of Recreational Fires

8 (1) Recreational fires may not be located within ~~twenty-five (25)~~ twelve (12) feet of any  
9 structure, including a fence or deck. Conditions which would cause a fire to spread to  
10 within ~~twenty-five (25)~~ twelve (12) feet of a structure must be eliminated prior to  
11 ignition.

**BOARD BILL NO. 136 INTRODUCED BY: ALDERMAN JOE VACCARO**

1           An ordinance defining “recreational fire” as an outdoor fire, burning fuel other than  
2 rubbish, leaves, grass, paper, building materials except for untreated dimensional lumber, or  
3 logs larger than four (4) inches diameter, where the fuel is not contained in an incinerator,  
4 outdoor fireplace, portable outdoor fireplace, barbeque grill or barbeque pit, has a total fuel  
5 area no more than thirty (30) inches in diameter and eighteen (18) inches in height, used for  
6 pleasure, religious, ceremonial, cooking, warmth or similar purposes; and providing for the  
7 regulation of recreational fires; and containing an emergency clause.

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9   **BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF ST. LOUIS AS FOLLOWS:**

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11   **SECTION ONE.** Definition of recreational fire. Recreational fire is an outdoor fire, burning  
12 fuel other than refuse, leaves, grass, treated wood, building materials, paper, or logs larger  
13 than four (4) inches diameter, where the fuel is not contained in an incinerator, outdoor  
14 fireplace, portable outdoor fireplace, barbeque grill or barbeque pit, has a total fuel area no  
15 more than thirty (30) inches in diameter and eighteen (18) inches in height, used for pleasure,  
16 religious, ceremonial, cooking, warmth or similar purposes.

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2 **SECTION TWO.** Conduct and management of recreational fires.

3 (1) Recreational fires may not be located within twenty-five (25) feet of any  
4 structure, including a fence or deck. Conditions which would cause a fire to  
5 spread to within twenty-five (25) feet of a structure must be eliminated prior to  
6 ignition.

7 (2) Recreational fires must be attended by a competent individual, who is at least  
8 sixteen years of age, until completely extinguished.

9 (3) Recreational fires must be extinguished within four (4) hours following  
10 ignition, and in no case will a fire be allowed to burn later than 11:00 pm. A  
11 means to extinguish the recreational fire such as a fire extinguisher, garden  
12 hose, or a bucket of water or sand must be readily at hand, and in no case more  
13 than fifteen (15) feet in distance from the fuel area.

14 (4) Recreational fire that is offensive or objectionable due to excessive or lingering  
15 smoke or odor emissions is prohibited.

16 (5) Recreational fires are not permitted if winds are greater than fifteen (15) miles  
17 per hour.

18 (6) City of St. Louis health and public safety authorities may prohibit, suspend or  
19 further restrict recreational fires should conditions warrant such action.

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1   **SECTION THREE.** Penalty clause. Any person who violates the provisions of this  
2 ordinance shall be subject to a fine of not less than one-hundred dollars (\$100.00) nor more  
3 than five-hundred dollars (\$500) or a term of imprisonment of not more than ninety days (90)  
4 or both a fine and term of imprisonment.

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6   **SECTION FOUR.** Emergency clause. This being an ordinance for the preservation of public  
7 peace, health, and safety, it is hereby declared to be an emergency measure within the  
8 meaning of Sections 19 and 20 of Article IV of the Charter of the City of St. Louis and  
9 therefore shall become effective immediately upon its passage and approval by the mayor.