

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU 200 E. Wells Street RM B-4, Milwaukee, WI 53203

********INTERDEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM*******

Date:

August 22, 2006

To:

Barry Zalben, LRB Manager

From:

Emma J Stamps, Legislative Fiscal Analyst-Lead, ext. 8666

Re:

Tamper-proof Smoke Detector Survey

On behalf of the Fire Chief, an ordinance was drafted requiring residential structures to install lithium powered, tamper proof smoke detectors in areas mandated by fire code. Fire services across the country have been successful in local governments adopting ordinances, such as Grand Rapids MI and the State of California.

There are two types of smoke detecting technology: ionization and photoelectric; you need both. Ionization sensing units are best for detecting fast flaming fires such as a grease fire in the kitchen or paper burning in a waste container. Photoelectric sensing units are better for detecting slow smoky fires that smolder for hours before bursting into flame, such as that caused by a cigarette burning in a couch or bed. A few hybrid models include both technologies and others allow for interconnectivity whereas all interconnected alarms sound when one sounds

Either batteries or power cells, depending on the manufacturer and model, provide the lithium power source that is sealed inside the unit making it tamper proof. Power cells cannot transfer to other electronics or toys. The maximum expected life is 10 years. Most limited warrants focus on the unit versus the battery and power cells.

Michigan and California fire services have endorsed the following models:

- BRK 4010 YR
- First Alert SA10YRCN
- FIREX 4671
- KIDDE 0910

You requested a price comparison for these smoke detectors. An Internet search using the Yahoo Shopping search engine lists online prices ranging \$20.35 to \$34.99. The individual specification sheets are attached for reference.

Cc: Marianne Walsh

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	DRX lonivation	BRK 4010YR	BRK 4010YR	FireX 4671 (TPCI)	Tamper Proof 10	
always on guard. always on guard. 10-year smoke detector has extra- long-life, non- removable lithium- power cells sealed within	Smoke Detectors, Fire Alarms, Fire Safety Products Home > Smoke Detectors > BRK ELECTRONICS > BRK	Cells Silence Feature Battery Power Indicator End-of-Service-Life Alert Ionization Sensor Battery Activation Alert Tab	Cells Silence Feature Battery Power Indicator End-of-Service-Life Alert Ionization Sensor Battery Activation Alert Tab	4671 Sealed enclosure - The lithium batteries are permanently soldered into place preventing battery removal. 2-Way	Sealed-In Lithium Battery - Sealed-in lithium power supply; no battery replacement required over the 10 year life of the	Description
Save this product	Save this product	Save this product	Save this product	Save this product	Save this product	My Lists Product Information
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ALERT #SA10YRCN Alarm Model 4010 YR 10 Year Smoke ... **BRANDS/FIRST** BRK

Smoke Detector

Year Lithium







\$34.99 EHY I

H from

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\$32.95

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Fire Extinguishers, Fire from Fire Safety & Home Safety: Smoke Monoxide Detectors, Detectors, Carbon Safety Tips

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\$28.50

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Smoke Alarm Year Lithium

Tamper Proof 10

(As LOW...

Battery Operated-

Smoke Detector -

Photoelectric

[Remove]

\$23.25



Fire Extinguishers, Fire Monoxide Detectors, Home Safety: Smoke Detectors, Carbon from Fire Safety & Safety Tips

required over the 10 supply; no battery Battery - Sealed-in lithium power Sealed-In Lithium replacement Indicator Low Sensor Flashing Photoelectric Test Button LED Power On ...batteries included)

Description

Alarm-Pause button

Battery To...

lonization...

energized when alarm installed

> Operation For 10 Continuous Smoke Detector,

Sealed-In, 10-year

Ionization Sensor

detector has extra-

always on guard

...confident its

10-year smoke

Lithium Power Cells...

removable lithium-

long-life, non-

power cells...

year life of the...

Piercing 85 dB... Battery Indicator requirements. Feature most public housing

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Years With No

automatically

prevent tampering Sealed alarm to

Lithium Power First Alert, 10 Year **Product Information**

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Smoke Detector

ALERT #SA10YRCN

Alarm Model 4010 YR Sensors smoke **BRK lonization**

> Alarm Outlet Mall First Alert Smoke

> > Tamper Proof 10

Smoke Alarm Year Lithium

Battery Operated-

(As LOW... \$23.25 ELY I

Smoke Detector -**Photoelectric**

\$27.90 from

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10 Year Smoke ...

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Tamper Proof 10

Year Lithium

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