

## **Fire Sprinklers Made Compulsory For All New Homes in Wales**

*Wales has become the first country in the world to introduce a law that makes residential fire sprinklers compulsory in all new homes. Wales passed the law in a bid to reduce the number of deaths involved in fires in the home.*

April 20, 2011 (FPRC) -- More than 100 people have been killed in fires in Welsh homes over the past seven years alone and this new initiative is geared towards reducing the number of deaths. The law was passed by the Welsh Assembly who voted unanimously for it. The new law will apply to all new homes in Wales, including flats, university halls of residence and care homes.

The initiative was also backed by the three Wales' fire services, the Chief Fire Officers Association, and the Fire Brigades Union. Other supporters included The European Fire Sprinkler Network and the National Fire Sprinkler Network.

The legislation follows a campaign started by the Residential Sprinkler Association 15 years ago to legislate for sprinklers in all homes in the UK and will now go for Royal Assent this month. The Bill is expected to take effect at the end of 2011.

The new sprinklers that will be fitted will not go off unless there is a fire at 68C which means that they will not go off during cooking or when food burns in the kitchen.

Labour backbencher Ann Jones first proposed the legislation and after the law was passed said: 'It saves the lives of the people, it saves the lives of firefighters having to go into burning buildings and it just makes sense to get on and do it now.'

She then went on to say: 'The building industry had its chance to fit sprinklers in all new homes, but it was now time to legislate so we can make people's lives in Wales a lot safer'.

Notes to Editors:

What House? is a leading property website that features thousands of new developments in Wales well as across the UK. It also provides the latest property news, valuation of homes and property and mortgage advice. Over the last 30 years, What House? has held their annual What House? Awards, which are the longest established New Homes awards in the UK recognising UK house builders and developers across 23 categories.

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### **Keywords**

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