

Your ID, Now in Your Pocket!

Mobile Resident Registration Certificate Available

- A total of 33 laws, including the Resident Registration Act, coming into effect in December

In December, you'll be able to get a Mobile Resident Registration Certificate and it's required to carry a fire extinguisher in passenger vehicles with five or more seats. The Ministry of Government Legislation (Minister Lee Wan-kyu) announced that a total of 33 statutes will come into effect in December. Some of the key details and enforcement dates of the forthcoming statutes are as follows.

Mobile Resident Registration Certificate Available(「RESIDENT REGISTRATION ACT」, 12. 27.)

As of the end of the year, anyone aged 17 and above will be able to get a Mobile Resident Registration Certificate in encrypted form on their cell phones. The mobile ID can be used to verify an individual's identity and residency, eliminating the need to carry a physical ID. The mobile ID can be applied for by anyone who has been issued a physical ID, and the issuance fee is free. The mobile ID uses the latest security technologies, including encryption, to prevent counterfeiting, alteration, and fraudulent use. It can only be issued to a single mobile phone device that one is using and can be reissued if the cell phone is replaced or if it expires after a period of three years. In the event that the phone is reported lost, the mobile ID will cease to be valid.

Requirement of the installation or carriage of fire extinguishers in passenger vehicles with five or more seats(「ACT ON INSTALLATION AND MANAGEMENT OF FIREFIGHTING SYSTEMS」, 12. 1.)

Starting in December, any person who manufactures, assembles, imports, or sells a motor vehicles with five or more seats, or the owner of the relevant motor vehicle shall install or carry a fire extinguisher within the vehicle. The regulation applies to motor vehicles that are manufactured, assembled, imported, or sold, as well as to motor vehicles whose ownership is transferred and registered in accordance with Article 6 of the Motor Vehicle Management Act on or after December 1, 2024. It should be noted that vehicles purchased and registered prior to December 1, 2024, will not be subject to retroactive application. Unlike ordinary fire extinguishers, fire extinguishers for motor vehicles are designed to withstand the vibrations and high temperatures that may occur in a vehicle, and are labeled as “fire extinguisher for motor vehicles” on the container. The installation or availability of a car fire extinguisher is subject to inspection pursuant to Article 43 (1) of the Motor Vehicle Management Act, including both new and regular inspections. it is thus necessary to install or carry a fire extinguisher for motor vehicles in the motor vehicles that are covered under this regulation.

Medical, Dental, Chinese Medicine, and Midwifery Clinics Required to Use Fire-Resistant Materials for Interior Finishes(「ENFORCEMENT DECREE OF THE BUILDING ACT」, 12. 19.)

As of December 19, medical clinics, dental clinics, oriental medicine clinics, and midwifery clinics will also be required to finish the interior of their buildings with fireproof materials. In order to ensure the safety of patients and pregnant women in the event of a fire, the

finishing materials for buildings used on the walls, the ceilings, and the roofs(applicable to buildings without ceilings), must be noncombustible, semi-noncombustible, or incombustible materials. This requirement does not apply to buildings where the main structural parts have a fire-resistant structure or are made of noncombustible materials, and where each fire compartment covers no more than 200 square meters of the floor area that is not installed with sprinklers or other similar automatic fire extinguishing equipment.

Collection of “Cooperation Charges for Inbound Shipping” when outsourcing household waste disposal to another region(「WASTES CONTROL ACT」, 12. 28.)

From now on, it is to be assumed that all household waste generated within the jurisdictional district will be treated within the district itself. In the event that it is impracticable to treat all the household waste generated, it will be possible to ship out the waste to another local government outside the jurisdiction for treatment. The local government can then collect the “Cooperation Charges for Inbound Shipping” from the local government that exported it. The “Cooperation Charges for Inbound Shipping” shall be prescribed by ordinance of the relevant local government which brings in and treats household wastes within the scope notified by the Minister of Environment. The principle of “Treatment of Household Waste within Area of Waste Generation” and “Collection of Cooperation Charges for Inbound Shipping” is designed to encourage local governments to operate waste treatment facilities in their jurisdictions and to smoothly coordinate interests among local governments. The collected charges are used to improve the neighboring environment of waste treatment facilities and to support residents in the vicinity. These charges are also used for establishment, operation, and improvement of the waste treatment facilities, as well as for

research on and development of the methods to curb the generation of wastes and to properly treat such wastes.

The new statutes and the reasons for their enactment, including those stated above, can be found at Korean Law Information Center(www.law.go.kr).

(Unofficial Translation)

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