

California SB 969 FAQs

SB-969 is a law passed in California that requires all garage door openers in residential applications sold or installed in California on or after July 1st, 2019 to be equipped with battery backup. Here you will find frequently asked questions on the SB-969 law and how it affects California residents.

Why was SB-969 introduced?

SB-969 was introduced in response to the 2017 wildfires that left people trapped in their garages with no power to the garage door openers. Some individuals were unable to lift their garage doors manually and unfortunately some lost their lives.

When replacing my existing garage door opener, will I be required to purchase a battery backup garage door opener?

Yes. Beginning July 1st, 2019, the only available garage door openers in California will be battery backup garage door openers.

Are there any other restrictions that would require me to purchase a battery backup garage door opener?

If you are replacing your garage door, you must replace your garage door opener with a battery backup garage door opener. We recommend installing a battery backup opener with all new garage doors going forward to ensure they are compliant with SB-969.

Overall, what should I know about the SB-969 Bill?

If you are replacing your garage door or garage door opener after July 1st, 2019, only a battery backup garage door opener can be installed in the residence. However, we encourage installing a garage door opener with battery backup now and not waiting until July 1st, 2019.

Can I still get parts for my existing LiftMaster and Chamberlain opener?

Yes, you can still replace components of your existing operator. If a replacement is ever needed, however, a battery backup garage door opener will be required.

What is the life expectancy of a LiftMaster and Chamberlain battery back-up system?

With normal usage, a battery will last approximately 1-2 years. To obtain maximum battery life and prevent damage, disconnect the battery when the garage door opener is unplugged for an extended period of time, such as at a summer or winter home.