

HB 2183 -- Missouri Uniform Building Energy Code

Sponsor: Lampe

This bill requires the Department of Natural Resources, by August 28, 2011, to establish by rule the Missouri Uniform Building Energy Code that meets the requirements of the latest versions of the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air Conditioning Engineers and the Illumination Engineering Society of North America (ASHRAE/IESNA) Standard 90.1 and the International Energy Conservation Code (IECC). In its main provisions, the bill:

(1) Requires the department to establish a process for reviewing and considering amendments to the state code. The state code must be reviewed at least every three years and within nine months after the publication of any new edition of the IECC or ASHRAE/IESNA Standard 90.1. The department's review must include consideration of the best available technology and life-cycle costs of technologies and techniques associated with the state code. Before adopting any proposed changes, the department must conduct public hearings;

(2) Requires the department to resolve conflicts between the state code and any other building-related codes and to provide training for local code officials, building inspectors, builders, and designers. The director of the department's energy center must appoint a training and certification committee to establish training and certification requirements and adopt and maintain adequate training programs for municipal and rural building inspectors;

(3) Requires the department to implement a public information campaign directed toward residential home buyers and commercial building owners on the benefits of the state code;

(4) Requires all buildings designed, constructed, or renovated in Missouri to meet or exceed the state code except certain buildings as specified in the bill;

(5) Requires all counties and municipalities to adopt the state code within 120 days of its establishment or within 120 days of any amendments. Local governments can adopt more stringent requirements for energy efficient construction than those specified in the state code;

(6) Specifies that a municipality is responsible for ensuring enforcement and compliance with the state code if it requires a building permit. The bill specifies how the municipality can meet this requirement through contracts;

(7) Specifies that the designer, builder, or both are responsible for filing a certification with the department that a building is constructed in accordance with the state code if the municipality does not require a building permit. If a builder or designer is in violation of the state code, the building's occupancy permit must be revoked or the construction halted until the violation is corrected; and

(8) Authorizes the department to perform inspections and issue notices of violation on buildings constructed where no building permit is required, to collect compliance information from local governments, and to levy fees sufficient to cover the cost of administering the state code.