



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

HOUSE BILL NO. 377

PRINTERS NO. 1520

PRIME SPONSOR: Everett

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2010/11	FY 2011/12
General Fund	\$0	\$9,000
Municipal Funds	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: Amends the Pennsylvania Construction Code Act (Act 45 of 1999) known as the Uniform Construction Code (UCC). This legislation would take effect immediately.

ANALYSIS: Amends the Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code by doing the following:

1. Amends Section 107 of the act to change the duties of the UCC Review and Advisory Council with respect to adoption of updated triennial ICC codes into UCC. Beginning with the publication of the 2012 ICC codes, the council will be required to begin to review the latest triennial code revisions upon official publication of the codes. The council will be required to hold at least three public hearings, with one being held in Harrisburg, one in the eastern region of state, and one in the western region of state. The council will have to submit a report to the Secretary of Labor and Industry within 12 months of the start of review process, and the report will have to outline provisions of the codes that are specified for adoption, with the provision that they must be separately designated in the report. This provision goes into effect January 1, 2012.
2. The bill amends Section 304 of the act to change the current duties of the department with respect to adoption of latest triennial code revisions. Under the new process, within 3 months of the receipt of the report from the council, the department must promulgate final-omitted regulations to adopt the triennial revisions recommended in the report without change. If a triennial code revision is not adopted, the relevant provisions of the previous code shall remain in effect. In addition, in a separate duty, the department must promulgate regulations updating accessibility standards by adopting Chapter 11 and Appendix E of 2012 International Building Code (IBC), or its successor provisions, by December 31 of year of issuance of new code.
3. Amends Section 901 ("Exemptions") of the act to state that any model code to industrialized housing pursuant to the Industrialized Housing Act of 1972 shall not include provisions omitted from that same code's adoption as part of the UCC.

4. Amends Section 901 adding energy efficiency standards for log homes allowing for log walls to be utilized in residential buildings if the homes meet the energy efficiency standards defined in the bill.
5. Amends Section 901 eliminating the requirement of automatic sprinklers in single and multi family homes. In lieu of this requirement, builders will have to provide buyers the option of installing the sprinkler system and detail the potential costs of installing and maintaining the system. A builder will also have to provide a buyer with information provided by the State Fire Commissioner on the possible benefits of installing an automatic sprinkler system.
6. Amends Section 901 by adding Section 501.3 of the 2012 International Residential Code which establishes the use of fire proof materials to protect the underside of floors.

FISCAL IMPACT: According to the Governor's Budget Office, this legislation will cost \$9,000 to conduct 3 hearings across the state for equipment, space rental, and materials. Enactment of this legislation will have no adverse impact on local funds.

PREPARED BY: Tim Rodrigo
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: April 13, 2011

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.