THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 647

Session of 1999

INTRODUCED BY WAUGH, WAGNER, KUKOVICH, HART, CORMAN, SALVATORE, BRIGHTBILL, THOMPSON, WOZNIAK, BOSCOLA AND CONTI, MARCH 24, 1999

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT, HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, OCTOBER 19, 1999

AN ACT

- Establishing a Uniform Construction Code; imposing powers and duties on municipalities and the Department of Labor and 2 3 Industry; providing for enforcement; imposing penalties; and 4 making repeals. 5 TABLE OF CONTENTS Chapter 1. Preliminary Provisions 6 7 Section 101. Short title. Section 102. Legislative findings and purpose. Section 103. Definitions. 10 Section 104. Application. Section 105. Department of Labor and Industry. 11 12 Section 106. Accessibility Advisory Board.
- 13 Chapter 3. Uniform Construction Code
- Section 301. Adoption by regulations.
- 15 Section 302. Establishment.
- Section 303 302. Referenced standards. 16
- Section 304 303. Existing municipal building codes. 17

- 1 Section 305 304. Revised or successor codes.
- 2 Chapter 5. Adoption and Enforcement by Municipalities
- 3 Section 501. Administration and enforcement.
- 4 Section 502. Consideration of applications and inspections.

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- 5 Section 503. Changes in Uniform Construction Code.
- 6 Section 504. Appeals.
- 7 Chapter 7. Training and Certification of Inspectors
- 8 Section 701. Training of inspectors.
- 9 Section 702. Reciprocity.
- 10 Chapter 9. Exemptions and Penalties
- 11 Section 901. Exemptions.
- 12 Section 902. Penalties.
- 13 Chapter 11. Miscellaneous Provisions
- 14 Section 1101. Savings.
- 15 Section 1102. Repeals.
- 16 Section 1103. Effective date.
- 17 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- 18 hereby enacts as follows:
- 19 CHAPTER 1
- 20 PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS
- 21 Section 101. Short title.
- This act shall be known and may be cited as the Pennsylvania
- 23 Construction Code Act.
- 24 Section 102. Legislative findings and purpose.
- 25 (a) Findings.--The General Assembly finds as follows:
- 26 (1) Many municipalities within this Commonwealth have no
- 27 construction codes to provide for the protection of life,
- 28 health, property and the environment and for the safety and
- 29 welfare of the consumer, general public and the owners and
- 30 occupants of buildings and structures. Consumers and

- 1 occupants may be at risk from substandard construction.
- 2 (2) Likewise, in some regions of this Commonwealth a
- 3 multiplicity of construction codes currently exist and some
- 4 of these codes may contain cumulatively needless requirements
- 5 which limit the use of certain materials, techniques or
- 6 products and lack benefits to the public. Moreover, the
- 7 variation of construction standards caused by the
- 8 multiplicity of codes may slow the process of construction
- 9 and increase the costs of construction.
- 10 (3) The way to insure uniform, modern construction
- 11 standards and regulations throughout this Commonwealth is to
- 12 adopt a Uniform Construction Code.
- 13 (4) The model code of the Building Officials and Code
- 14 Administrators International, Inc. (BOCA), is a construction
- 15 code which has been widely adopted in this Commonwealth and
- in the geographical region of the United States of which this
- 17 Commonwealth is a part. Adoption of a nationally recognized
- 18 code will insure that this Commonwealth has a uniform, modern
- 19 construction code which will insure safety, health and
- 20 sanitary construction.
- 21 (b) Intent and purpose. -- It is the intent of the General
- 22 Assembly and the purpose of this act:
- 23 (1) To provide standards for the protection of life,
- health, property and environment and for the safety and
- 25 welfare of the consumer, general public and the owners and
- occupants of buildings and structures.
- 27 (2) To encourage standardization and economy in
- 28 construction by providing requirements for construction and
- 29 construction materials consistent with nationally recognized
- 30 standards.

- 1 (3) To permit to the fullest extent feasible the use of 2 state-of-the-art technical methods, devices and improvements 3 consistent with reasonable requirements for the health, 4 safety and welfare of occupants or users of buildings and 5 structures.
 - (4) To eliminate existing codes to the extent that these codes are restrictive, obsolete, conflicting and contain duplicative construction regulations that tend to unnecessarily increase costs or retard the use of new materials, products or methods of construction or provide preferential treatment to certain types or classes of materials or methods of construction.
 - (5) To eliminate unnecessary duplication of effort and fees related to the review of construction plans and the inspection of construction projects.
 - (6) To assure that officials charged with the administration and enforcement of the technical provisions of this act are adequately trained and supervised.
- 19 To insure that existing Commonwealth laws and 20 regulations, including those which would be repealed or rescinded by this act, would be fully enforced during the 21 transition to Statewide administration and enforcement of a 22 23 Uniform Construction Code. Further, it is the intent of this 24 act that the Uniform Construction Code requirements for 25 making buildings accessible to and usable by persons with 26 disabilities do not diminish from those requirements 27 previously in effect under the former provisions of the act 28 of September 1, 1965 (P.L.459, No.235), entitled, as amended, 29 "An act requiring that certain buildings and facilities adhere to certain principles, standards and specifications to 30

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- 1 make the same accessible to and usable by persons with
- 2 physical handicaps, and providing for enforcement."
- 3 (8) To start a process leading to the design,
- 4 construction and alteration of buildings under a uniform
- 5 standard.
- 6 Section 103. Definitions.
- 7 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
- 8 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
- 9 context clearly indicates otherwise:
- 10 "Advisory board." The Accessibility Advisory Board created
- 11 in section 106.
- 12 "Agricultural building." A structure utilized to store farm
- 13 implements, hay, feed, grain or other agricultural or
- 14 horticultural products or to house poultry, livestock or other
- 15 farm animals. The term shall not include habitable space, spaces
- 16 in which agricultural products are processed, treated or
- 17 packaged and shall not be construed to mean a place of occupancy
- 18 by the general public.
- 19 "Board of appeals." The body created by a municipality or
- 20 more than one municipality to hear appeals from decisions of the

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- 21 code administrator as provided for by Chapter 1 of the 1999
- 22 Building Officials and Code Administrators International, Inc.,
- 23 National Building Code, FOURTEENTH EDITION.
- 24 "BOCA." Building Officials and Code Administrators
- 25 International, Inc.
- 26 "Code administrator." A municipal code official, a
- 27 construction code official, a third party agency or the
- 28 Department of Labor and Industry.
- 29 "Construction code official." An individual certified by the
- 30 Department of Labor and Industry in an appropriate category

- 1 established pursuant to section 701(b) of this act to perform
- 2 plan review of construction documents, inspect construction or
- 3 administer and enforce codes and regulations in such code
- 4 category under this act or related acts.
- 5 "Department." The Department of Labor and Industry of the
- 6 Commonwealth.
- 7 "Habitable space." Space in a structure for living,
- 8 sleeping, eating or cooking. Bathrooms, toilet compartments,
- 9 closets, halls, storage or utility spaces and similar areas
- 10 shall not be construed as habitable spaces.
- 11 "Health care facility." As defined in section 802.1 of the
- 12 act of July 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48), known as the Health Care
- 13 Facilities Act.
- 14 "I.A.P.M.O." The International Association of Plumbing and <-
- 15 Mechanical Officials.
- 16 "I.C.C." The International Code Council.
- 17 "Industrialized housing." The term shall have the meaning
- 18 ascribed to it in the act of May 11, 1972 (P.L.286, No.70),
- 19 known as the Industrialized Housing Act.
- 20 "Manufactured housing." Housing which bears a label, as
- 21 required by and referred to in the act of November 17, 1982
- 22 (P.L.676, No.192), known as the Manufactured Housing
- 23 Construction and Safety Standards Authorization Act, certifying
- 24 that it conforms to Federal construction and safety standards
- 25 adopted under the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974
- 26 (Public Law 93-383, 88 Stat. 139).
- 27 "Municipal code official." An individual employed by a
- 28 municipality or more than one municipality and certified by the
- 29 Department of Labor and Industry under this act to perform plan
- 30 review of construction documents, inspect construction or

- 1 administer and enforce codes and regulations under this act or
- 2 related acts.
- 3 "Municipality." A city, borough, incorporated town, township
- 4 or home rule municipality.
- 5 "NCSBCS." The National Conference of State Building Codes
- 6 and Standards.
- 7 "Occupancy." The purpose for which a building, or portion
- 8 thereof, is used.
- 9 "Secretary." The Secretary of Labor and Industry of the
- 10 Commonwealth.
- "State institutions." As defined in section 901 of the act
- 12 of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Public Welfare
- 13 Code.
- 14 "Technically infeasible." An alteration of a building or a
- 15 facility that has little likelihood of being accomplished
- 16 because the existing structural conditions require the removal
- 17 or alteration of a load-bearing member that is an essential part
- 18 of the structural frame, or because other existing physical or
- 19 site constraints prohibit modification or addition of elements,
- 20 spaces or features which are in full and strict compliance with
- 21 the minimum requirements for new construction and which are
- 22 necessary to provide accessibility.
- 23 "Third-party agency." A person, firm or corporation
- 24 certified by the Department of Labor and Industry as a
- 25 construction code official and contracted to perform plan review
- 26 of construction documents, inspect construction or administer
- 27 and enforce codes and regulations under this act.
- 28 "Uniform Construction Code." The code established in section
- 29 301.
- 30 "Utility and miscellaneous use structures." Buildings or

- 1 structures of an accessory character and miscellaneous
- 2 structures not classified by the Building Officials and Code
- 3 Administrators International, Inc., in any specific use group.
- 4 The term includes carports, detached private garages,
- 5 greenhouses and sheds having a building area less than 500
- 6 square feet. THE TERM DOES NOT INCLUDE SWIMMING POOLS OR SPAS.
- 7 Section 104. Application.
- 8 (a) General rule. -- This act shall apply to the construction,
- 9 alteration, repair and occupancy of all buildings in this
- 10 Commonwealth.
- 11 (b) Exclusions. -- This act shall not apply to:
- 12 (1) new buildings or renovations to existing buildings
- for which an application for a building permit has been made
- 14 to the municipality prior to the effective date of the
- regulations promulgated under this act;
- 16 (2) new buildings or renovations to existing buildings
- on which a contract for design or construction has been
- 18 signed prior to the effective date of the regulations
- 19 promulgated under this act on projects requiring department
- 20 approval;
- 21 (3) utility and miscellaneous use structures that are
- 22 accessory to detached one-family dwellings except for
- 23 swimming pools and spas; or
- 24 (4) any agricultural building.
- 25 (c) Prior permits and construction.--
- 26 (1) Subject to paragraph (2) a construction permit
- 27 issued under valid construction regulations prior to the
- 28 effective date of the regulations issued under this act shall
- 29 remain valid, and the construction of any building or
- 30 structure may be completed pursuant to and in accordance with

- 1 the permit.
- If the requirements of the permit have not been 2. actively prosecuted within two years of the effective date of the regulations or the period specified by a municipal ordinance, whichever is less, the former permit holder shall be required to acquire a new permit. Where construction of a building or structure commenced before the effective date of the regulations promulgated under this act and a permit was not required at that time, construction may be completed without a permit.
- 11 (d) Preemption.--

- (1) Except as otherwise provided in this act, construction standards provided by any statute or local ordinance or regulation promulgated or adopted by a board, department, commission, agency of State government or agency of local government shall continue in effect only until the effective date of regulations promulgated under this act, at which time they shall be preempted by regulations promulgated under this act and deemed thereafter to be rescinded.
 - (2) (i) Except as otherwise provided in this act and as specifically excepted in subparagraph (ii), a homeowners' association or community association shall be preempted from imposing building construction standards or building codes for buildings to be constructed, renovated, altered or modified.
 - (ii) In municipalities which have not adopted an ordinance for the administration and enforcement of this act, a homeowners' association or community association may adopt by board regulations the Uniform Construction Code or the I.C.C. International One and Two Family

- 1 Dwelling Code, 1998 edition. The applicable building code
- 2 shall constitute the standard governing building
- 3 structures in the association's community.
- 4 (3) Nothing in this act shall preempt any licensure or
- 5 Federal certification requirements for health care
- facilities, intermediate care facilities for the mentally
- 7 retarded or for persons with related conditions or State
- 8 institutions. This paragraph includes building and life
- 9 safety code standards set forth in applicable regulations.
- 10 (4) Nothing in this act shall limit the ability of the
- 11 Department of Aging, the Department of Health or the
- 12 Department of Public Welfare to promulgate or enforce
- regulations which exceed the requirements of this act.
- (e) Municipal regulation. -- Nothing in this act shall
- 15 prohibit a municipality from licensing any persons engaged in
- 16 construction activities or from establishing work rules or
- 17 qualifications for such persons.
- 18 Section 105. Department of Labor and Industry.
- 19 (a) Review.--
- 20 (1) The department shall with reasonable cause review
- 21 municipalities, municipal code officials, third-party
- 22 agencies, construction code officials and code administrators
- 23 concerning the enforcement and administration of this act,
- including specifically complaints concerning accessibility
- 25 requirements.
- 26 (2) The department shall make a report to the governing
- 27 body of the municipality that was the subject of the review.
- 28 The report shall include recommendations to address any
- deficiency observed by the department.
- 30 (3) The department may require compliance with this act

- 1 through proceedings in Commonwealth Court.
- 2 (b) State-owned buildings.--
- 3 (1) The department shall maintain plan and specification
- 4 review and inspection authority over all State-owned
- 5 buildings. State-owned buildings shall be subject to
- 6 regulations promulgated under this act. The department shall
- 7 notify municipalities of all inspections of State-owned
- 8 buildings and give municipalities the opportunity to observe
- 9 the department inspection of such buildings.
- 10 (2) Municipalities shall notify the department of all
- inspection of buildings owned by political subdivisions and
- give the department the opportunity to observe municipal
- inspection of such buildings.
- 14 (3) The department shall make available to
- municipalities, upon request, copies of all building plans
- and plan review documents in the custody of the department
- for State-owned buildings.
- 18 (4) A municipality shall make available to the
- 19 department upon request copies of all building plans and plan
- 20 review documents in the custody of the municipality for
- 21 buildings owned by political subdivisions.
- 22 (c) Elevators and conveying systems. --
- 23 (1) The department shall maintain Statewide
- 24 administration and inspection authority over ski lifts,
- inclined passenger lifts and related devices, and elevators,
- 26 conveying systems and related equipment as defined in section
- 27 3002.0 (definitions) of Chapter 30 of the 1999 BOCA National
- 28 Building Code, Fourteenth Edition.
- 29 (2) Notwithstanding Chapters 3 and 5, the department
- 30 may, subject to the act of June 25, 1982 (P.L.633, No.181),

1 known as the Regulatory Review Act, by regulation, modify the

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- 2 1999 BOCA National Building Code, FOURTEENTH EDITION
- 3 Referenced Standards for elevator construction, repair,
- 4 maintenance and inspection. The department shall not require
- 5 reshackling more than once every two years.
- 6 (3) Nothing in this section shall be construed to
- 7 disallow third-party elevator inspections.
- 8 (d) Department of Health.--
- 9 (1) Health care facilities, intermediate care facilities
- 10 for the mentally retarded or for persons with related
- 11 conditions and State institutions shall continue to comply
- 12 with building codes and standards set forth in the applicable
- 13 licensure laws and regulations. This paragraph includes the
- 14 applicable edition of the National Fire Protection
- Association's Life Safety Code, NFPA No. 101, and the
- 16 applicable edition of the Guidelines for Construction and
- 17 Equipment of Hospital and Medical Facilities.
- 18 (2) The department may delegate its responsibility for
- 19 conducting plan reviews and inspections for health care
- 20 facilities to the Department of Health.
- 21 (e) Limitation. -- Nothing in this act, the regulations under
- 22 this act nor the administration of the act or the regulations by
- 23 the department shall contravene the right of builders to freely
- 24 compete for and perform contracts for construction of commercial
- 25 buildings in this Commonwealth.
- 26 Section 106. Accessibility Advisory Board.
- 27 (a) Creation and composition.--
- 28 (1) There is hereby created an Accessibility Advisory
- 29 Board which shall be composed of 11 members appointed by the
- 30 secretary. At least six members of the advisory board shall

- 1 be public members, three of whom shall be persons with
- 2 physical disabilities, one shall be an architect registered
- in Pennsylvania, one shall be a member of the business
- 4 community and one shall be a representative of the
- 5 multifamily housing industry. One member shall be a municipal
- 6 official. The chairman and minority chairman of the Labor and
- 7 Industry Committee of the Senate and the chairman and
- 8 minority chairman of the Labor Relations Committee of the
- 9 House of Representatives, or their designees, shall be
- 10 members. All members of the advisory board, except the
- 11 members of the General Assembly, shall serve for a term of
- two years and until their successors are appointed.
- 13 (2) The members of the advisory board shall be paid
- 14 traveling expenses and other necessary expenses and may
- 15 receive a per diem compensation at a rate to be determined by
- the secretary for each day of actual service in the
- 17 performance of their duties under this act.
- 18 (3) Meetings of the advisory board shall be called by
- 19 the secretary. A quorum of the advisory board shall consist
- of four members.
- 21 (4) The initial advisory board shall be the body
- 22 constituted under the former provisions of section 3.1 of the
- 23 act of September 1, 1965 (P.L.459, No.235), entitled, as
- amended, "An act requiring that certain buildings and
- 25 facilities adhere to certain principles, standards and
- 26 specifications to make the same accessible to and usable by
- 27 persons with physical handicaps, and providing for
- 28 enforcement."
- 29 (b) Advice on regulation. -- The advisory board shall review
- 30 all proposed regulations under this act and shall offer comment

- 1 and advice to the secretary on all issues relating to
- 2 accessibility by persons with physical disabilities, including
- 3 those which relate to the enforcement of the accessibility
- 4 requirements.
- 5 (c) Recommendations for modifications.--The advisory board
- 6 shall review all applications from individual projects for
- 7 modifications of the provisions of Chapter 11 (Accessibility) of
- 8 the Uniform Construction Code and any other accessibility
- 9 requirements contained in or referenced by the Uniform
- 10 Construction Code, and shall advise the secretary regarding
- 11 whether modification should be granted or whether compliance by
- 12 existing facilities with provisions of Chapter 11
- 13 (Accessibility) of the Uniform Construction Code and any other
- 14 accessibility requirements contained in or referenced by the
- 15 Uniform Construction Code is technically infeasible.
- 16 CHAPTER 3
- 17 UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE
- 18 Section 301. Adoption by regulations.
- 19 (a) Regulations.--
- 20 (1) The department shall, within 180 days of the
- 21 effective date of this section, promulgate regulations
- adopting the 1999 BOCA National Building Code, Fourteenth
- 23 Edition, as a Uniform Construction Code, except as provided
- in section 105(c)(2) and this section. The department shall
- 25 promulgate separate regulations which may make changes to
- 26 Chapter 1 of the 1999 BOCA National Building Code, FOURTEENTH
- 27 EDITION relating to administration that are necessary for the
- department's implementation of this act.
- 29 (2) The regulations shall include a provision that all
- detached one-family and two-family dwellings AND ONE-FAMILY

1 TOWNHOUSES that are not more than three stories in height AND <---

2 THEIR ACCESSORY STRUCTURES shall be designed and constructed

3 either in accordance with the I.C.C. International One and

4 Two Family Dwelling Code, 1998 edition, or in accordance with

5 the requirements of the Uniform Construction Code at the

6 option of the building permit applicant. The provision shall

require that an irrevocable election be made at the time

8 plans are submitted for review and approval. IF THE BUILDING <

PERMIT APPLICANT DOES NOT INDICATE A CODE, THE DESIGN AND

CONSTRUCTION SHALL BE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE UNIFORM

11 CONSTRUCTION CODE.

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- (3) The regulations shall include a provision that the secretary shall have the exclusive power to grant modifications and decide issues of technical infeasibility under Chapter 11 (Accessibility) of the Uniform Construction Code and any other accessibility requirements contained in or referenced by the Uniform Construction Code for individual projects.
 - (4) The secretary shall consider the recommendations of the advisory board as provided in section 106(c). The department shall consider the comments of the advisory board with respect to accessibility issues in any proposed regulations.
- (5) The regulations shall provide for a system of periodic compliance reviews conducted by the department and for enforcement procedures conducted by the department to ensure that code administrators are adequately administering and enforcing Chapter 11 (Accessibility) of the Uniform Construction Code and any other accessibility requirements contained in or referenced by the Uniform Construction Code.

- 1 (6) The regulations shall include the provisions of
- 2 exception 8 to section 1014.6 (relative to stairway treads
- and risers) of the 1993 BOCA National Building Code, Twelfth
- 4 Edition and the provisions of section R-213.1 (relative to
- 5 stairways) of the CABO One and Two Family Dwelling Code, 1992
- 6 edition, which provisions shall continue in effect until
- 7 December 31, 2003, and such provisions shall be applicable
- 8 notwithstanding section 304(b), which shall not apply to the
- 9 provisions of any municipal building code ordinance which
- 10 equals or exceeds these provisions.
- 11 (7) The department shall consult with the Department of
- Health in the development of regulations relating to health
- care facilities, intermediate care facilities for the
- 14 mentally retarded or for persons with related conditions and
- 15 State institutions.
- 16 (b) International Fuel Gas Code. -- The department shall,
- 17 within 180 days of the effective date of this section,
- 18 promulgate regulations adopting the International Fuel Gas Code
- 19 for the installation of fuel gas piping systems, fuel gas
- 20 utilization equipment and related accessories as the standard
- 21 for the installation of piping, equipment and accessories in
- 22 this Commonwealth.
- 23 (c) Prescriptive methods for energy-related standards.--The
- 24 department shall, within 180 days of the effective date of this
- 25 section, by regulation promulgate prescriptive methods to
- 26 implement the energy-related standards of the Uniform
- 27 Construction Code which take into account the various climatic
- 28 conditions through this Commonwealth. In deriving these
- 29 standards the department shall seek to balance energy savings
- 30 with initial construction costs.

(d) Scope of regulations. --

- 2 (1) The regulations adopted by the department
- 3 implementing these codes shall supersede and preempt all
- 4 local building codes regulating any aspect of the
- 5 construction, alteration and repair of buildings adopted or
- 6 enforced by any municipality or authority or pursuant to any
- deed restriction, rule, regulation, ordinance, resolution,
- 8 tariff or order of any public utility or any State or local
- 9 board, agency, commission or homeowners' association, except
- as may be otherwise specifically provided in this act.
- 11 (2) The department may establish by regulation plan
- 12 review and inspection fees where the department is
- 13 responsible for administration and enforcement and
- 14 requirements for municipal notification to the department of
- ordinance adoption and repeal under Chapter 5. The department
- shall consult with the Department of Aging, the Department of
- 17 Health or the Department of Public Welfare, as appropriate,
- 18 to determine fees for health care facilities, intermediate
- 19 care facilities for the mentally retarded or for persons with
- 20 related conditions and State institutions.
- 21 (3) The department shall establish by regulation
- 22 standards for the retention and sharing of building plans and
- other documents, for other than one-family or two-family
- dwelling units and utility and miscellaneous use structures,
- by the department, municipalities and third-party agencies.
- 26 Section 302. Establishment.
- 27 (a) Uniform plumbing code. The Uniform Plumbing Code as
- 28 published by the IAPMO is hereby established as the standard for
- 29 the installation of plumbing systems in this Commonwealth and
- 30 shall be construed to be part of the Uniform Construction Code.

- 1 Where differences occur between provisions of the 1999 BOCA
- 2 National Building Code, Fourteenth Edition and the Uniform
- 3 Plumbing Code, the provisions of the Uniform Plumbing Code shall
- 4 apply.
- 5 (b) Uniform mechanical code. The Uniform Mechanical Code as
- 6 published by the IAPMO is hereby established as the standard for
- 7 the installation of mechanical systems in this Commonwealth and
- 8 shall be construed to be part of the Uniform Construction Code.
- 9 Where differences occur between provisions of the 1999 BOCA
- 10 National Building Code, Fourteenth Edition and the Uniform
- 11 Mechanical Code, the provisions of the Uniform Mechanical Code
- 12 shall apply.
- 13 Section 303 302. Referenced standards.
- 14 (a) General rule.--The standards referenced in Chapters 30

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- 15 and 35 relating to elevators and conveying systems and
- 16 referenced standards, respectively, or the applicable chapter,
- 17 of the 1999 BOCA National Building Code, FOURTEENTH EDITION and
- 18 the American National Standards for Passenger Tramways, Aerial
- 19 Tramways, Aerial Lifts, Surface Lifts and Tows, ASME/ANSI B77.1,
- 20 shall be considered part of the requirements of the Uniform
- 21 Construction Code to the prescribed extent of each such
- 22 reference except that BNPMC-96 BOCA National Property
- 23 Maintenance Code and ASME/ANSI A17.3 (safety code for existing
- 24 elevators and escalators) shall be excluded.
- 25 (b) No preemption. -- Nothing contained in this act shall be
- 26 construed to preempt the ability of a municipality to adopt or
- 27 enforce the codes referred to in this subsection SECTION to the <
- 28 extent not referenced, in whole or in part, in Chapter 35
- 29 relating to referenced standards or applicable chapter of the
- 30 1999 BOCA National Building Code, FOURTEENTH EDITION.

Section 304 303. Existing municipal building codes. 1 2 (a) Failure to meet requirements. Except as provided in <---3 subsection (d), all 4 (A) FAILURE TO MEET REQUIREMENTS. --5 EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2), municipal building code ordinances in effect on January 1, 1998, THE 6 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS ACT that do not comply with the 7 8 minimum requirements of the regulations promulgated under 9 this act shall be amended by the effective date of the 10 regulations promulgated under this act to provide for the 11 minimum requirements. (2) A MUNICIPAL BUILDING CODE ORDINANCE PROVISION IN 12 13 EFFECT IN OR ADOPTED BY A CITY OF THE FIRST CLASS ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 1998, SHALL REMAIN IN EFFECT UNTIL DECEMBER 14 31, 2003, BY WHICH TIME THE ORDINANCE MUST BE AMENDED TO MEET 15 16 THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS OF REGULATIONS PROMULGATED UNDER 17 THIS ACT. 18 (b) Provisions which equal or exceed the Uniform 19 Construction Code. Except as provided in subsection (d), all 20 municipal CONSTRUCTION CODE. --21 (1) MUNICIPAL building code ordinances in effect on 22 January 1, 1998 JULY 1, 1999, or reenactments of provisions <---23 of simultaneously repealed ordinances which were originally adopted prior to January 1, 1998 JULY 1, 1999, which contain 24 <----25 provisions which equal or exceed the specific requirements of 26 the regulations promulgated under this act shall remain in 27 effect. 28 (c) Ordinance adopted after January 1, 1998. Except as provided in subsection (d), any municipal building code 29 30 ordinance

1 MUNICIPAL BUILDING CODE ORDINANCES adopted or (2) 2 effective after January 1, 1998 JULY 1, 1999, except 3 reenactments of provisions of simultaneously repealed 4 ordinances which were originally adopted prior to January 1, 5 1998 JULY 1, 1999, shall continue in effect only until the <---effective date of the regulations promulgated under this act, 6 at which time the municipal building code ordinance shall be 7 8 preempted by the regulations promulgated under this act and 9 shall be deemed thereafter to be rescinded. 10 (d) Cities of the first class. Any municipal building code 11 ordinance in effect or adopted by a city of the first class by July 1, 1998, shall remain in effect until December 31, 2003, by 12 13 which time the ordinance shall be amended to incorporate the 14 specific requirements of the regulations promulgated under this 15 act or shall be amended using the provisions of Chapter 5 to 16 incorporate provisions which equal or exceed the specific 17 requirements of the regulations promulgated under this act. 18 Section 305 304. Revised or successor codes. <----19 (a) Building code. --20 (1) By December 31 of the year of the issuance of a new 21 triennial BOCA National Building Code, or its successor 22 building code, the department shall promulgate regulations 23 adopting the new code as the Uniform Construction Code. 24 BY DECEMBER 31 OF THE YEAR OF ISSUANCE OF A NEW 25 TRIENNIAL ICC INTERNATIONAL ONE AND TWO FAMILY DWELLING CODE 26 OR ITS SUCCESSOR BUILDING CODE, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL 27 PROMULGATE REGULATIONS PROVIDING THAT ALL DETACHED ONE-FAMILY 28 AND TWO-FAMILY DWELLINGS AND ONE-FAMILY TOWNHOUSES THAT ARE NOT MORE THAN THREE STORIES IN HEIGHT AND THEIR ACCESSORY 29 30 STRUCTURES MAY BE DESIGNED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THAT CODE OR

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- 1 THE UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE AT THE OPTION OF THE BUILDING
- 2 PERMIT APPLICANT.
- 3 (b) International Fuel Gas Code. -- By December 31 of the year
- 4 of the issuance of a new International Fuel Gas Code, or its
- 5 successor code, the department shall promulgate regulations
- 6 adopting the new code.
- 7 (c) Prior permits and construction.--
- 8 (1) A construction permit issued under valid
- 9 construction regulations prior to the effective date of
- 10 regulations for a subsequent Uniform Construction Code or
- 11 International Fuel Gas Code issued under this act shall
- remain valid, and the construction of any building or
- 13 structure may be completed pursuant to and in accordance with
- 14 the permit.
- 15 (2) If the permit has not been actively prosecuted
- 16 within two years of the effective date of the regulation or
- the period specified by a municipal ordinance, whichever is
- less, the former permitholder shall be required to acquire a
- 19 new permit.
- 20 (3) Where construction of a building or structure
- 21 commenced before the effective date of the regulations for a
- 22 subsequent Uniform Construction Code or International Fuel
- 23 Gas Code issued under this act and a permit was not required
- 24 at that time, construction may be completed without a permit.
- 25 CHAPTER 5
- 26 ADOPTION AND ENFORCEMENT BY MUNICIPALITIES
- 27 Section 501. Administration and enforcement.
- 28 (a) Adoption of ordinance.--
- 29 (1) In order to administer and enforce the provisions of
- 30 this act, municipalities shall enact an ordinance

1 concurrently adopting the Uniform Construction Code as their

2 municipal building code and the International Fuel Gas Code

for the purposes described in section 303(a). Municipalities

4 may adopt the Uniform Construction Code and incorporated

5 codes and the International Fuel Gas Code by reference.

(2) The ordinance shall provide for reciprocal acceptance of a certificate of registration issued for a contractor or dealer by another municipality.

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- 9 (3) (2) Municipalities shall have 90 days after the
 10 effective date of this act to adopt such an ordinance.
 11 Municipalities shall notify the department of the adoption of
 12 such an ordinance within 30 days. A municipality may adopt
 13 such an ordinance at any time thereafter, upon giving the
 14 department 180 days' notice of its intention to adopt such
 15 ordinance.
- 16 (b) Municipal administration and enforcement.--This act may
 17 be administered and enforced by municipalities in any of the
 18 following ways:
- 19 (1) By the designation of an employee to serve as the
 20 municipal code official to act on behalf of the municipality
 21 for administration and enforcement of this act.
 - (2) By the retention of one or more construction code officials or third-party agencies to act on behalf of the municipality for administration and enforcement of this act.
 - (3) Two or more municipalities may provide for the joint administration and enforcement of this act through an intermunicipal agreement under 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 23 Subch. A (relating to intergovernmental cooperation).
- 29 (4) By entering into a contract with the proper 30 authorities of another municipality for the administration

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- 1 and enforcement of this act. When such a contract has been
- 2 entered into, the municipal code official shall have all the
- 3 powers and authority conferred by law in the municipality
- 4 which has contracted to secure such services.
- 5 (5) By entering into an agreement with the department
- for plan reviews, inspections and enforcement of structures
- 7 other than one-family or two-family dwelling units and
- 8 utility and miscellaneous use structures.
- 9 (c) Board of appeals.--
- 10 (1) Where the municipality A MUNICIPALITY WHICH has
- adopted an ordinance for the administration and enforcement
- of this act, the municipality shall or two or more
- 13 municipalities may OR MUNICIPALITIES WHICH ARE PARTIES TO AN <-

- 14 AGREEMENT FOR THE JOINT ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT OF
- 15 THIS ACT SHALL establish a board of appeals as provided by
- 16 Chapter 1 of the 1999 BOCA National Building Code, FOURTEENTH
- 17 EDITION to hear appeals from decisions of the code
- administrator. Members of the municipality's governing body
- 19 may not serve as members of the board of appeals.
- 20 (2) An application for appeal shall be based on a claim
- 21 that the true intent of this act or regulations legally
- 22 adopted under this act have been incorrectly interpreted, the
- 23 provisions of this act do not fully apply or an equivalent
- form of construction is to be used.
- 25 (3) When a municipality cannot find persons to serve on
- a board of appeals who meet the minimum qualifications of
- 27 Chapter 1 of the BOCA National Building Code, the
- 28 municipality may fill a position on the board with a
- 29 qualified person who resides outside of the municipality.
- 30 (d) Registration.--Nothing in this act shall allow a

- 1 municipality to prohibit a construction code official who meets
- 2 the requirements of Chapter 7 and remains in good standing from
- 3 performing inspections in the municipality. This section does
- 4 not alter the power and duties given to municipalities under
- 5 subsection (b)(1), (3) and (4).
- 6 (e) Nonmunicipal administration. --
- 7 (1) In municipalities which have not adopted an
- 8 ordinance for the administration and enforcement of this act,
- 9 it shall be the duty of the municipality to notify an
- 10 applicant for a construction permit that it shall be the
- 11 responsibility of the permit applicant of one-family or two-
- family dwelling units and utility and miscellaneous use
- 13 structures to obtain the services of a construction code
- official or third-party agency with appropriate categories of
- 15 certification to conduct the plan review and inspections. For
- one-family and two-family dwelling units and utility and
- 17 miscellaneous use structures, all of the following five
- inspections shall be required:
- 19 (i) Foundation inspection.
- 20 (ii) Plumbing, mechanical and electrical inspection.
- 21 (iii) Frame and masonry inspection.
- 22 (iv) Wallboard inspection.
- 23 (v) Final inspection. The final inspection shall not
- 24 be deemed approved until all previous inspections have
- been successfully completed and passed.
- 26 (2) In municipalities which have not adopted an
- ordinance for the administration and enforcement of this act,
- 28 it shall be the duty of the municipality to notify the
- department and an applicant for a construction permit that it
- 30 shall be the responsibility of the owner of structures other

- than one-family or two-family dwelling units and utility and
- 2 miscellaneous use structures to obtain the services of the
- department or a third-party agency with appropriate
- 4 categories of certification under contract to the department
- 5 to conduct the plan review and inspections required by this
- 6 act.
- 7 (3) A copy of the final inspection report shall be sent
- 8 to the property owner and to the builder and to a lender
- 9 designated by the builder.
- 10 (4) In municipalities which require a building permit or
- a certificate of occupancy but do not conduct inspections,
- the code administrator shall also be required to submit a
- copy of the report to the municipality. No certificate of
- occupancy shall be issued for a building unless it meets all
- of the APPLICABLE ACCESSIBILITY provisions of the Uniform
- 16 Construction Code or has been granted a variance for the
- 17 requirements it does not meet. A certificate of partial
- occupancy may be issued if the space to be occupied complies
- 19 with the accessibility requirements contained in the Uniform
- 20 Construction Code unless a variance for the space has been
- obtained in accordance with this act.
- 22 (f) Private right of action.--
- 23 (1) In relation to complaints arising out of Chapter 11
- 24 (Accessibility) of the Uniform Construction Code, any
- individual, partnership, agency, association or corporation
- 26 who reasonably believes there is a violation of THE
- 27 ACCESSIBILITY PROVISIONS OF this act and its regulations by a

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- governmental entity or private owner may file a complaint
- with the body responsible for enforcement of the Uniform
- 30 Construction Code Act. The complaint shall be in writing,

1 shall be verified and shall set forth the grounds for the

complaint. Within 60 days after the receipt of the complaint,

3 the code enforcement body shall respond to the complaint by

4 acknowledging receipt of the complaint in writing. The

5 enforcement body shall investigate the complaints and respond

6 to the complainant in writing with its findings,

determinations and any enforcement measures initiated or

contemplated within 120 days after the receipt of the

9 complaint. For the purpose of investigating a complaint, an

10 employee of the enforcement organization may inspect at

11 reasonable times the building or building site which is the

subject of the complaint and may make any additional

investigation deemed necessary for the full and effective

determination of compliance with this act and regulations

15 promulgated pursuant to it.

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- (2) Any individual, partnership, agency, association or corporation aggrieved by a final determination of the enforcement agency of a complaint filed pursuant to paragraph (1) hereof may file a petition for review within 30 days of the final determination in the Commonwealth Court pursuant to 42 Pa.C.S. § 763(a) (relating to direct appeals from government agencies). The decision of the enforcement agency shall not be reversed unless it is found to be arbitrary, capricious, illegal or not supported by substantial evidence.
- (3) (i) Any individual, partnership, agency, association or corporation who filed a complaint pursuant to paragraph (1) and received no written response from the enforcement agency acknowledging receipt of its complaint within 60 days or received a response from the enforcement agency indicating that a violation was found

but enforcement measures were not contemplated or enforcement measures were contemplated but such measures were not initiated after a period of 60 days from said response may bring a civil action in the appropriate court of common pleas against the agency for failure to enforce the provisions of this act and the regulations promulgated thereto or a building owner or owner's agent for a violation of any provisions of this act or regulations promulgated pursuant to it.

(ii) If the court finds a violation of this act or of regulations adopted pursuant to it, the court may enjoin construction or remodeling of the building, direct the correction of violations within a reasonable and specified time period or order such other relief deemed appropriate. The court, in issuing any final orders in any action brought pursuant to this section, may award costs of litigation, attorney and expert witness fees, to any party, whenever the court determines such an award is appropriate. The court may, if a temporary restraining order or preliminary injunction is sought, require the filing of a bond or equivalent security in accordance with the rules of civil procedure.

(iii) An architect or licensed design professional who has complied with the provisions of this act and its regulations and prepared construction documents in accordance with accepted professional standards shall have no further liability pursuant to litigation commenced under this section.

- 29 Section 502. Consideration of applications and inspections.
- 30 (a) Applications for construction permits.--

- 1 (1) Every application for a construction permit for one-
- 2 family and two-family dwelling units and utility and
- 3 miscellaneous use structures shall be granted or denied, in
- 4 whole or in part, within 15 business days of the filing date.
- 5 All other construction permits shall be granted or denied, in
- 6 whole or in part, within 30 business days of the filing date.
- 7 Municipalities may establish different time limits to
- 8 consider applications for construction permits in historic
- 9 districts.
- 10 (2) If an application is denied in whole or in part, the
- 11 code administrator shall set forth the reasons in writing.
- 12 (3) If the code administrator fails to act on an
- application for a construction permit for one-family and two-
- 14 family dwelling units and utility and miscellaneous use
- structures within the time prescribed, the application shall
- be deemed approved. The time limits established in this
- section for permit applications other than one-family and
- 18 two-family dwellings may be extended upon agreement in
- 19 writing between the applicant and the municipality for a
- 20 specific number of additional days.
- 21 (b) Highway occupancy permit.--
- 22 (1) No building permit shall be issued for any property
- 23 which will require access to a highway under the jurisdiction
- of the Department of Transportation, unless the permit
- contains a notice that a highway occupancy permit is required
- pursuant to section 420 of the act of June 1, 1945 (P.L.1242,
- 27 No.428), known as the State Highway Law, before driveway
- access to a State highway is permitted.
- 29 (2) The Department of Transportation shall, within 60
- days of the date of receipt of an application for a highway

1 occupancy permit: (i) approve the permit; 2 3 (ii) deny the permit; 4 (iii) return the application for additional information or correction to conform with regulations of 5 the Department of Transportation; or 6 determine that no permit is required, in which 7 case the Department of Transportation shall notify the 8 municipality and applicant in writing. 9 10 If the Department of Transportation fails to 11 take any action within the 60-day period, the permit shall be deemed to be issued. The permit shall be marked 12 13 to indicate that access to the State highway shall be 14 only as authorized by a highway occupancy permit. 15 (ii) Notwithstanding the provisions of subparagraph 16 (i), if the highway occupancy permit requires a 17 determination by the United States Department of 18 Transportation, the Pennsylvania Department of 19 Transportation shall have 60 days from the receipt of the 20 determination to take action on the permit or the permit shall be deemed to be issued. 21 22 (i) Neither the Department of Transportation nor 23 any municipality to which permit-issuing authority has 24 been delegated under section 420 of the State Highway Law 25 shall be liable in damages for any injury to persons or 26 property arising out of the issuance or denial of a 27 driveway permit, or for failure to regulate any driveway. 28 The municipality from which the building permit approval has been requested shall not be held liable for 29 30 damages to persons or property arising out of the

- issuance or denial of a driveway permit by the Department
- of Transportation.
- 3 (c) Financial interest prohibited.--A code administrator
- 4 shall not review or approve any plans for or construction of any
- 5 building or structure in which the code administrator has any
- 6 financial interest.
- 7 Section 503. Changes in Uniform Construction Code.
- 8 (a) Administration.--Municipalities may enact ordinances
- 9 which equal or exceed the minimum requirements of Chapter 1 of

- 10 the 1999 BOCA National Building Code, FOURTEENTH EDITION
- 11 RELATING TO ADMINISTRATION consistent with the provisions of
- 12 section 501(c).
- 13 (b) Minimum requirement. -- Subject to the provisions of this
- 14 act, no municipality may propose or enact any ordinance which is
- 15 less than the minimum requirement of the Uniform Construction
- 16 Code.
- 17 (c) Modification of minimum requirement. -- Subject to the
- 18 provisions of this act, the municipal governing body may propose
- 19 and enact an ordinance to equal or exceed the minimum
- 20 requirements of the Uniform Construction Code under the law
- 21 governing the adoption of ordinances in that jurisdiction.
- 22 (d) Public hearing. -- The municipality must SHALL hold at
- 23 least one public hearing prior to adoption of the ordinance.
- 24 (e) Notice of public hearing. -- The municipality shall place
- 25 notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the municipality
- 26 at least seven days, but not more than 60 days, in advance of a
- 27 public hearing to consider the proposed ordinance.
- 28 (f) Filing of proposed ordinance with department.--The
- 29 municipality shall file a copy of the proposed ordinance with
- 30 the department at least 30 days prior to public hearing. The

- 1 department shall make proposed ordinances available for public
- 2 inspection.
- 3 (g) Municipal action. -- Following the public hearing, the
- 4 municipal governing body may enact the ordinance under the law
- 5 governing the adoption of ordinance in that jurisdiction.
- 6 (h) Amendment of proposed ordinance. -- If the municipality
- 7 proposes any substantive amendment to a proposed ordinance, the
- 8 municipal governing body shall be required to meet the
- 9 advertising, filing, notice and public hearing requirements of
- 10 this section before enacting the proposed ordinance.
- 11 (i) Department review.--The department shall review all
- 12 proposed ordinances required to be filed with the department
- 13 under subsection (f) for compliance with subsection (b). If the
- 14 proposed ordinance does not comply with subsection (b), the
- 15 department shall advise the municipality of its finding setting
- 16 forth the reasons in writing. The municipality shall then
- 17 withdraw the proposed ordinance or revise the proposed ordinance

- 18 to meet the minimum requirements of the BOCA National Building
- 19 UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION Code.
- 20 (j) Challenge of ordinance.--
- 21 (1) Aggrieved parties shall have 30 days from date of
- 22 enactment of the ordinance to file a written challenge with
- 23 the department and the municipality. The challenge shall
- 24 state the reason or reasons for the challenge. A municipal
- ordinance may not take effect for a period of 35 days
- following its enactment. If a challenge is filed in writing
- 27 with the department within 30 days, the department has five
- 28 business days from the end of the 30-day filing period to
- 29 notify a municipality of the challenge. There may be no
- 30 enforcement of the ordinance until a ruling is issued by the

- secretary or 45 days after the filing date of the last challenge to the ordinance, whichever occurs first.
 - (2) The department shall review any ordinance which would equal or exceed the minimum requirements of the Uniform Construction Code based on the following standards:
 - (i) that certain clear and convincing localclimatic, geologic, topographic or public health andsafety circumstances or conditions justify the exception;
- 9 (ii) the exemption EXCEPTION shall be adequate for <-10 the purpose intended and shall meet a standard of
 11 performance equal to or greater than that prescribed by
 12 the BOCA National Building UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION Code; and <--
- 13 (iii) the exception would not diminish or threaten
 14 the health, safety and welfare of the public; AND <---
- (IV) THE EXCEPTION WOULD NOT BE INCONSISTENT WITH

 THE LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND PURPOSE DESCRIBED IN SECTION

 102.
- 18 THE DEPARTMENT SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION, IN RENDERING THE
- 19 DETERMINATION, THE PROVISION, CODE DEVELOPMENT PROCESS HISTORY,
- 20 PURPOSE AND INTENT OF RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF THE 1999 BOCA
- 21 NATIONAL BUILDING CODE, FOURTEENTH EDITION, I.C.C. INTERNATIONAL
- 22 ONE AND TWO FAMILY DWELLING CODE, 1998 EDITION, OR THEIR
- 23 SUCCESSOR CODES.

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- 24 (k) Ruling by secretary. -- A ruling on a challenge by an
- 25 aggrieved party shall be issued by the secretary within 45 days
- 26 of receipt of the filing of the last challenge to the ordinance.
- 27 If the secretary approves the ordinance, the municipality may
- 28 begin to administer and enforce the ordinance. If the secretary
- 29 disapproves the ordinance, the ordinance shall be null and void.
- 30 The secretary shall state the reasons for the disapproval in

- 1 writing to the municipality.
- 2 Section 504. Appeals.
- 3 (a) Ruling of secretary. -- An appeal of the secretary's
- 4 ruling may be taken to the Commonwealth Court within 30 days of
- 5 the date of the ruling.
- 6 (b) Application for enforcement of ordinance. -- Any person
- 7 aggrieved by the application or enforcement of any provision of
- 8 an ordinance adopted pursuant to section 503 shall have the
- 9 right to challenge the validity of the ordinance in the
- 10 appropriate court of common pleas.
- 11 CHAPTER 7
- 12 TRAINING AND CERTIFICATION OF INSPECTORS
- 13 Section 701. Training of inspectors.
- 14 (a) Training program. -- The department, in consultation with
- 15 the advisory board, BOCA, NCSBCS and other interested parties,
- 16 shall by regulation adopt a program of required training and
- 17 certification for all categories of code administrators. This
- 18 education program shall include accessibility requirements
- 19 contained in and referenced by the Uniform Construction Code.
- 20 The department may contract with third parties to provide the
- 21 code training and testing programs.
- 22 (b) Categories of inspectors.--The department, in
- 23 consultation with BOCA and other interested parties, shall
- 24 establish appropriate categories of code administrators.
- 25 (c) Certification. -- Upon determination of qualification, the
- 26 department shall issue a certificate to the code administrator
- 27 stating that he is so certified.
- 28 (d) Waiver.--The department shall by regulation establish a
- 29 procedure for the consideration of requests for waivers of the
- 30 initial training and certification requirements for individuals

- 1 who present documentation that they have previously satisfied
- 2 substantially similar training, testing and certification
- 3 requirements. Any waiver shall not apply to continuing education
- 4 requirements.
- 5 (e) Current officials.--
- 6 (1) The department shall by regulation determine the
- 7 time period for current code administrators to meet the
- 8 training and certification requirements of this act. This
- 9 time period shall not be less than three years and not exceed
- 10 seven years from the effective date of this act for
- individuals conducting plan review and inspections of one-
- 12 family or two-family residential property or not be less than
- five years and not exceed ten years for individuals
- 14 conducting plan reviews and inspections on all other
- 15 buildings and structures.
- 16 (2) Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection,
- 17 the department shall adopt regulations specifically providing
- 18 for the department's administration and enforcement of the
- 19 provisions of Chapter 11 (Accessibility) of the Uniform
- 20 Construction Code and any other accessibility requirements
- 21 contained in or referenced by the Uniform Construction Code
- 22 until code administrators have been certified regarding
- 23 accessibility provisions. The department shall maintain
- jurisdiction over the provisions of Chapter 11
- 25 (Accessibility) of the Uniform Construction Code and any
- other accessibility requirements contained in or referenced
- 27 by the Uniform Construction Code until such time as municipal
- 28 code administrators meet the requirements for certification.
- 29 (f) Continuing education. -- The department shall, by
- 30 regulation, adopt and implement the continuing education program

- 1 and all code administrators shall participate in the
- 2 department's continuing education programs.
- 3 (g) Remedial education. -- The department is empowered to
- 4 require code administrators to participate in remedial education
- 5 programs for just cause.
- 6 (h) Decertification. -- The department is empowered to
- 7 decertify code administrators for just cause. The department
- 8 shall, by regulation, establish a procedure for the notification
- 9 of code administrators of decertification and the right of the
- 10 individual to receive a hearing before the department on
- 11 decertification.
- 12 (i) List of code administrators.--The department shall
- 13 maintain a list of code administrators, indicating the
- 14 categories of certifications, which shall be made available to
- 15 municipalities and, upon request, the public.
- 16 (j) Fees.--The department shall determine and approve
- 17 reasonable fees for educational programs, testing and
- 18 certification of code administrators. The department shall
- 19 consult with the Department of Aging, the Department of Health
- 20 or the Department of Public Welfare, as appropriate, to
- 21 determine fees for health care facilities, intermediate care
- 22 facilities for the mentally retarded or for persons with related
- 23 conditions and State institutions.
- 24 (k) Insurance.--The department shall promulgate regulations
- 25 requiring code administrators in third-party agencies to carry
- 26 minimum levels of liability insurance.
- 27 Section 702. Reciprocity.
- 28 The department may develop reciprocity agreements with other
- 29 states or jurisdictions which have established accreditations
- 30 and certification requirements which the department determines

- 1 to be substantially similar to those set forth in this act.
- 2 CHAPTER 9
- 3 EXEMPTIONS AND PENALTIES
- 4 Section 901. Exemptions.
- 5 This act shall not apply to manufactured housing which bears
- 6 a label, as required by and referred to in the act of November
- 7 17, 1982 (P.L.676, No.192), known as the Manufactured Housing
- 8 Construction and Safety Standards Authorization Act, which
- 9 certifies that it conforms to Federal construction and safety
- 10 standards adopted under the Housing and Community Development
- 11 Act of 1974 (Public Law 93-383, 88 Stat. 139), nor shall it
- 12 apply to industrialized housing, as defined in the act of May
- 13 11, 1972 (P.L.286, No.70), known as the Industrialized Housing
- 14 Act.
- 15 Section 902. Penalties.
- 16 (a) Violation of act.--
- 17 (1) Any individual, firm or corporation that violates
- 18 any provision of this act commits a summary offense and
- 19 shall, upon conviction, be sentenced to pay a fine of not
- more than \$1,000 and costs.
- 21 (2) Each day that a violation of this act continues
- 22 shall be considered a separate violation.
- 23 (b) Disposition of penalties. -- The amount of the penalty
- 24 shall be forwarded to the entity with enforcement jurisdiction.
- 25 CHAPTER 11
- 26 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS
- 27 Section 1101. Savings.
- 28 This act shall not repeal or in any way affect:
- 29 Sections 1, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6(f)(1)(i), (f.1) and (g), 10.1,
- 30 $\,$ 13, 14 and 15 of the act of April 27, 1927 (P.L.465, No.299),

- 1 referred to as the Fire and Panic Act.
- Section 2203-A of the act of April 9, 1929 (P.L.177, No.175),
- 3 known as The Administrative Code of 1929.
- 4 Act of May 2, 1929 (P.L.1513, No.451), referred to as the
- 5 Boiler Regulation Law.
- 6 Act of August 24, 1951 (P.L.1304, No.315), known as the Local
- 7 Health Administration Law, insofar as it applies to counties of
- 8 the first class and of the second class, and rules and
- 9 regulations adopted by counties of the first class and of the
- 10 second class under the act. Any construction standard adopted
- 11 after October 31, 1996, by counties of the first class and of
- 12 the second class under the authority of the Local Health
- 13 Administration Law shall comply with Chapters 3 and 5 of this
- 14 act.
- 15 Act of December 27, 1951 (P.L.1793, No.475), referred to as
- 16 the Liquefied Petroleum Gas Act.
- 17 Act of October 27, 1955 (P.L.744, No.222), known as the
- 18 Pennsylvania Human Relations Act, and regulations promulgated
- 19 under the act.
- 20 Act of January 24, 1966 (1965 P.L.1535, No.537), known as the
- 21 Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act, and regulations promulgated
- 22 under the act.
- 23 Act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Public
- 24 Welfare Code.
- 25 Act of October 4, 1978 (P.L.851, No.166), known as the Flood
- 26 Plain Management Act, and regulations and ordinances promulgated
- 27 under the act.
- 28 Act of July 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48), known as the Health
- 29 Care Facilities Act.
- 30 Act of July 11, 1990 (P.L.499, No.118), known as the Older

- 1 Adult Daily Living Centers Licensing Act.
- 2 Section 1102. Repeals.
- 3 (a) Absolute.--The following acts and parts of acts are
- 4 repealed:
- 5 Sections 2, 3, 3.1, 3.2, 3.6(a), (b), (c), (d), (e),
- 6 (f)(1)(ii), (iii) and (2), 4, 4.1, 4.2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11,
- 7 12 and 15.1 of the act of April 27, 1927 (P.L.465, No.299),
- 8 referred to as the Fire and Panic Act.
- 9 Act of May 2, 1929 (P.L.1518, No.452), referred to as the
- 10 Elevator Regulation Law.
- 11 Act of September 1, 1965 (P.L.459, No.235), entitled, as
- 12 amended, "An act requiring that certain buildings and facilities
- 13 adhere to certain principles, standards and specifications to
- 14 make the same accessible to and usable by persons with physical
- 15 handicaps, and providing for enforcement."
- 16 Act of July 9, 1976 (P.L.919, No.170), entitled "An act
- 17 providing for the approval or disapproval of applications for a
- 18 permit relating to the construction or maintenance of
- 19 improvements to real estate."
- 20 Act of December 15, 1980 (P.L.1203, No.222), known as the
- 21 Building Energy Conservation Act, and regulations promulgated
- 22 thereunder.
- 23 Act of December 17, 1990 (P.L.742, No.185), entitled "An act
- 24 providing for restrooms in facilities where the public
- 25 congregates; and requiring that restroom facilities be provided
- 26 for women on an equitable basis."
- 27 Act of December 19, 1990 (P.L.1387, No.214), known as the Dry
- 28 Cleaning Law.
- 29 (b) General.--All other acts and parts of acts are repealed
- 30 insofar as they are inconsistent with this act.

- 1 Section 1103. Effective date.
- 2 This act shall take effect as follows:
- 3 (1) Sections 104(d)(3) and (4), 301, $\frac{303}{302}$, 701 and <—
- 4 this section shall take effect immediately.
- 5 (2) The remainder of this act shall take effect 90 days
- 6 following publication of notice in the Pennsylvania Bulletin
- 7 that the regulations required by this act have been finally
- 8 adopted.