

SB309

By Senators Mitchem, Mitchell, Griffith, Butler, Ross, Penn, and Little (T)
RFD Energy and Natural Resources
Rd 1 07-FEB-08

SYNOPSIS: This bill would require the Building Commission to adopt the 2006 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) as a minimum requirement for the design of all new commercial buildings and the renovation and addition to all commercial buildings in the state.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To require the Building Commission to adopt the 2006 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC), and subsequent updates, as a minimum requirement for the design of all new commercial buildings and the renovation and addition to all commercial buildings in the state.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) The Legislature finds that the adoption of an energy efficient building code for commercial buildings is recommended for the following reasons:

(1) To reduce the air pollutant emissions from energy consumption that are affecting the health of residents of this state.

(2) To moderate future peak electric power demand.

(3) To assure the reliability of the electrical grid and an adequate supply of heating oil and natural gas.

(4) To control energy costs for businesses in this state.

(b) The Legislature further finds that this state has a number of different climate types, all of which require energy for both cooling and heating, and that there are many cost-effective measures that can reduce peak energy use and reduce cooling, heating, lighting, and other energy costs in commercial buildings.

Section 2. The following definitions shall apply to this act:

(1) 2006 IECC. The 2006 International Energy Conservation Code as it relates to commercial buildings.

(2) BUILDING COMMISSION or COMMISSION. The state Building Commission created pursuant to Section 41-9-140, Code of Alabama 1975.

(3) COMMERCIAL BUILDINGS. Any structure, privately owned or publicly owned, that is designed for commercial, industrial, state government, K-12 or postsecondary educational application, excluding residential buildings or structures, as identified by the Building Commission and not excluded from this act and the 2006 IECC.

Section 3. (a) The Building Commission shall adopt the 2006 IECC as the minimum standard for the design, construction, renovation, and addition to all commercial buildings in the state.

(b) The 2006 IECC shall become effective one year following the date it is adopted by the Building Commission.

(c) The 2006 IECC shall apply only to those portions of a commercial structure that are being added, altered, renovated, or repaired.

Section 4. (a) The following buildings shall be exempt from the code:

(1) Buildings otherwise exempt from the provisions of a locally adopted building code and buildings that do not contain a conditioned space.

(2) Buildings that do not use either electricity or fossil fuel for comfort conditioning.

(3) Historic buildings. This exemption shall apply to those buildings that are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, or are recognized by the Alabama Historical Commission as historic places, and to those buildings that have been designated as historically significant by a local governing body that is authorized to make such designations.

(4) Other commercial buildings specified as exempt by the 2006 IECC.

Section 5. Nothing in this act prevents a unit of local government from adopting an energy efficiency code for commercial buildings that are more stringent than the 2006 IECC.

Section 6. This act shall become effective on the first day of the third month following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

Building Commission

Commercial Buildings

Energy Efficiency

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